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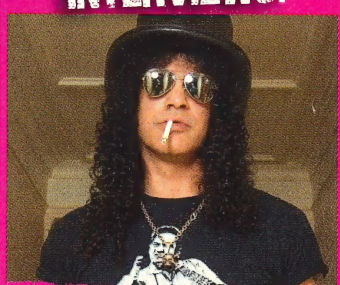


AGAINST ME!

THE REASON PUNK ROCK STILL MATTERS

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SLASH
"WEILAND FELT THREATENED BY US!"



SCARS ON BROADWAY
SYSTEM OF A DOWN DUO GET SET TO FLY!



KILL HANNAH



NIGHTWISH and more!

PLUS!

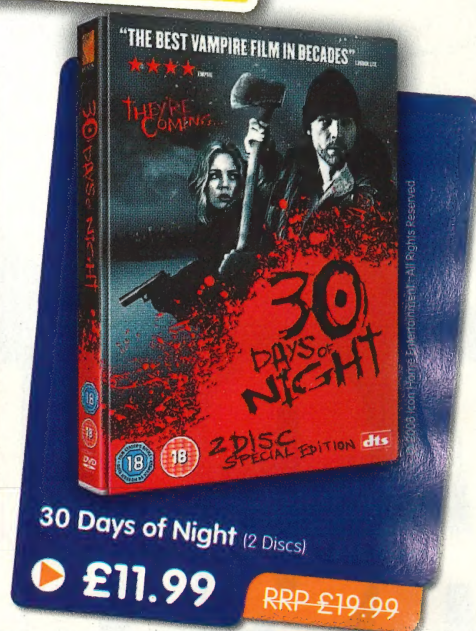
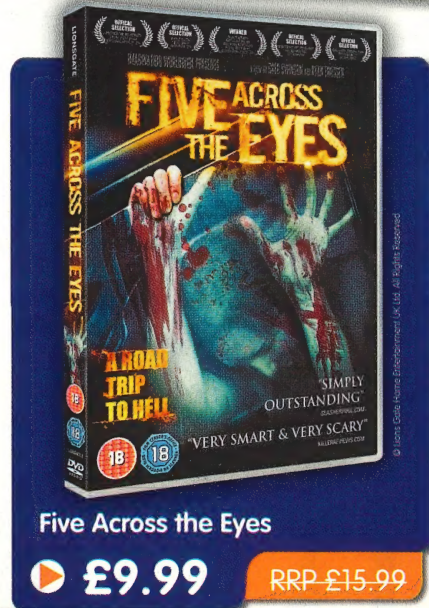
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EVERY TIME I DIE + SIMPLE PLAN + SICK OF IT ALL
STONE TEMPLE PILOTS + KIDS IN GLASS HOUSES



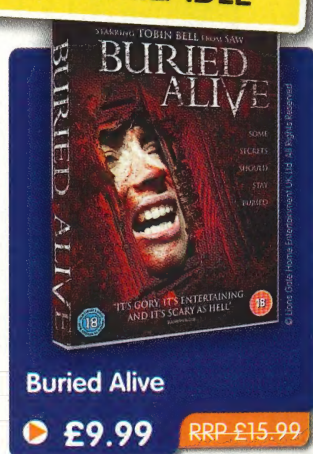
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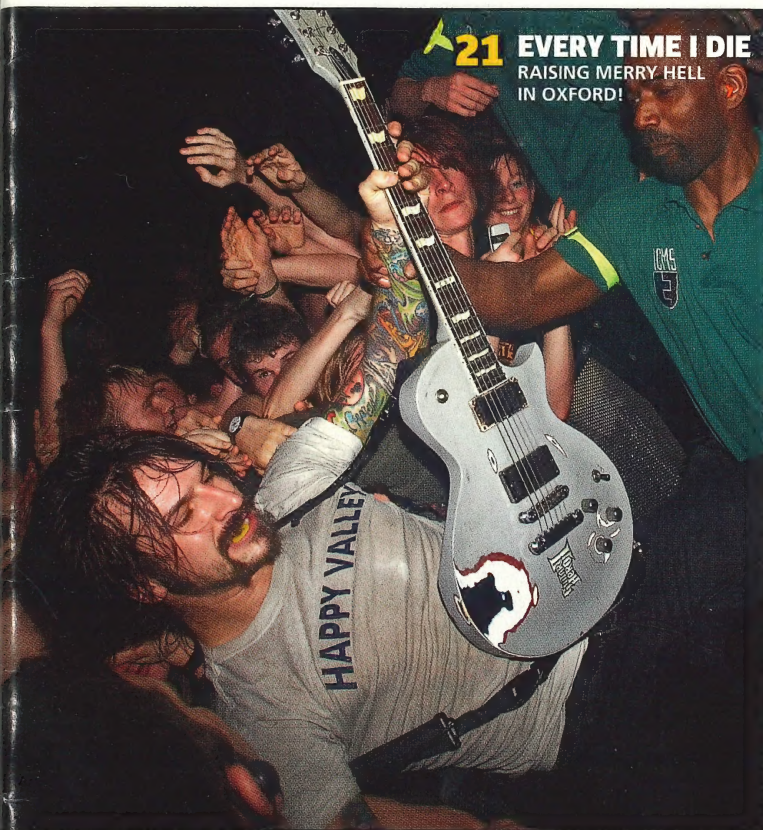
BELFAST PUNKS Stiff Little Fingers changed my life: while metal bands offered escapism and larger than life showmanship, punk rock seemed to speak directly to me about my life. Chances are that you'll have had the same thought when listening to Sex Pistols or Rancid or Bad Religion or Gallows. Right now Against Me! might just be the most important punk band in the world... but as you'll see in Daniel Lane's insightful cover story, the Florida quartet are hugely reluctant to fly the flag for the genre. It's easy to understand why: few bands have taken such flak from hardline zealots who feel they've 'betrayed' the scene. Their first Kerrang! cover will doubtless be another nail in their coffin as far as purists are concerned. Whatever. Here's to sticking two fingers up to anyone who dares to say what punk can and can't do. *Paul* Editor

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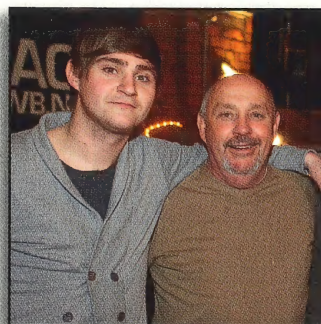
ISSUE NO: 1206 COVER DATE: 19/04/08

"We gave Scott the cold shoulder like nobody's business..."
Slash, Velvet Revolver

SLASH SPEAKS CANDIDLY ABOUT THE DEMISE OF VR MK. 1 ON PAGE 32.



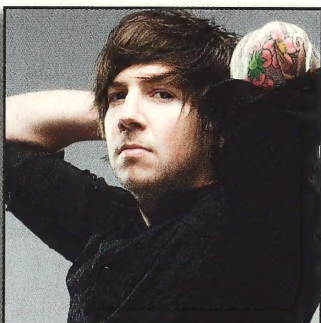
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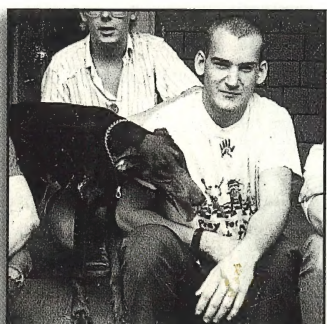
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Comment: www.kerrang.com

ART BEAT

HI KERRANG!! Please could you print these drawings I've done of Jared Leto and Madina Lake? They both took about 10 hours and it would be really cool to see my hard work in Kerrang!. Thanks for printing great pictures to inspire me and other artists alike! Keep rocking!

CHLOE MORRIS, NOTTINGHAM.



FRACTURED ANATOMY

I WOULD just like to say a MASSIVE thank you to Aiden for letting me experience a PROPER rock concert. I have been to a few in the past and there was no moshing, no pushing and security every way you turn. Thank you, Aiden, for cracking my ribs and breaking my neck, and for spitting on me, much appreciated. It was an amazing show, I was at the barrier for the majority and got to hold wil's hand. Yay!

HAN, VIA EMAIL.

PS: Kill Hannah were the best support band ever! They had amazing songs, even if Matt Devine does sound like a girl.

GUITAR HEROES

I'VE JUST read the review of the Velvet Revolver gig (K! 1204), and it actually annoyed me enough to write in. Were you at a different gig to the rest of us? The atmosphere was amazing, so much better than any other gig I've ever been to. How much respect everyone has for these guys was just shown when we were all captured in awe of Slash when he played a guitar solo/filler between two songs. It was a beautiful moment of the gig, and one of the amazing moments of the gig which the reviewer didn't pick up on at all. You complain about it being a 'covers gig', but they made all the songs their own; Scott has such a different voice to Axl, and Slash and Duff add a completely different dimension to the Pilots songs. To say that their own songs are worse than the covers live is complete rubbish, they nailed every single song with such drive and enthusiasm and the highlights were arguably their own songs like She Mine and Slither. These men are legends of our time and are still very much capable of putting on a bloody good rock show.

ZERO #46, VIA EMAIL.



Letter Of The Week

I WAS reading the Feedback page in the mag last week (Issue 1203) and saw the letter from a fan who said you should give more coverage to International bands. I think it's a great idea! I am a huge fan of the Taiwanese rock/pop band Mayday. These guys are HUGE in Asia. Like Rammstein, they also sing in their own language and I think that it is something we need to hear more of. A band shouldn't be ignored just because they don't sing in English. They are one hell of a good band and it's only a matter of time before they reach our shores. So I beg you, please give us more coverage of bands like Mayday! There is a world of music out there just waiting to be discovered! With a great mag like yours, you can help shine a light on bands that deserve some real attention. Cheers, guys, LOVE the mag, keep up the good work!

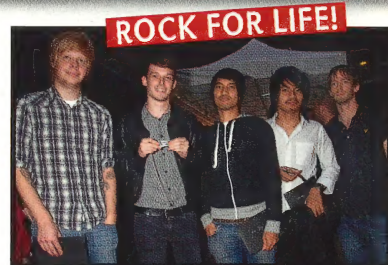
CIARAN, NORTHAMPTON.



SPREAD YOUR LOVE

KERRANG! YOU twatbags, how the chuff do I choose between the mighty Slash and Dimebag posters (K! 1203)? It's lucky I love you, you royal fuckwits.

SPANNA, VIA TEXT.



JOIN THE Ghost Of A Thousand in supporting the Kerrang! and Samaritans' Rock For Life campaign by purchasing a Rock For Life dog tag! Available from the Samaritans website www.samaritans.org/kerrang or by calling 01227 811656, the tags cost £2 each plus P&P with no minimum order. ALSO, back by popular demand, there are a LIMITED NUMBER of Rock For Life wristbands for sale, in adult and child sizes for £1 each with a minimum order of five wristbands (plus P&P). Samaritans provide 24-hour confidential emotional support for people who are experiencing feelings of distress or despair. If you feel you need someone to talk to, email jo@samaritans.org or call 08457 90 90 90.

FINAL REMAINS

HEY! OH my God, I can't believe that Still Remains have split up? And then Scott has left Velvet Revolver! I only saw Velvet Revolver last week. Shame I didn't get round to see Still Remains and now I never will.

MRS CHLOE BATTEN, VIA MYSPACE.

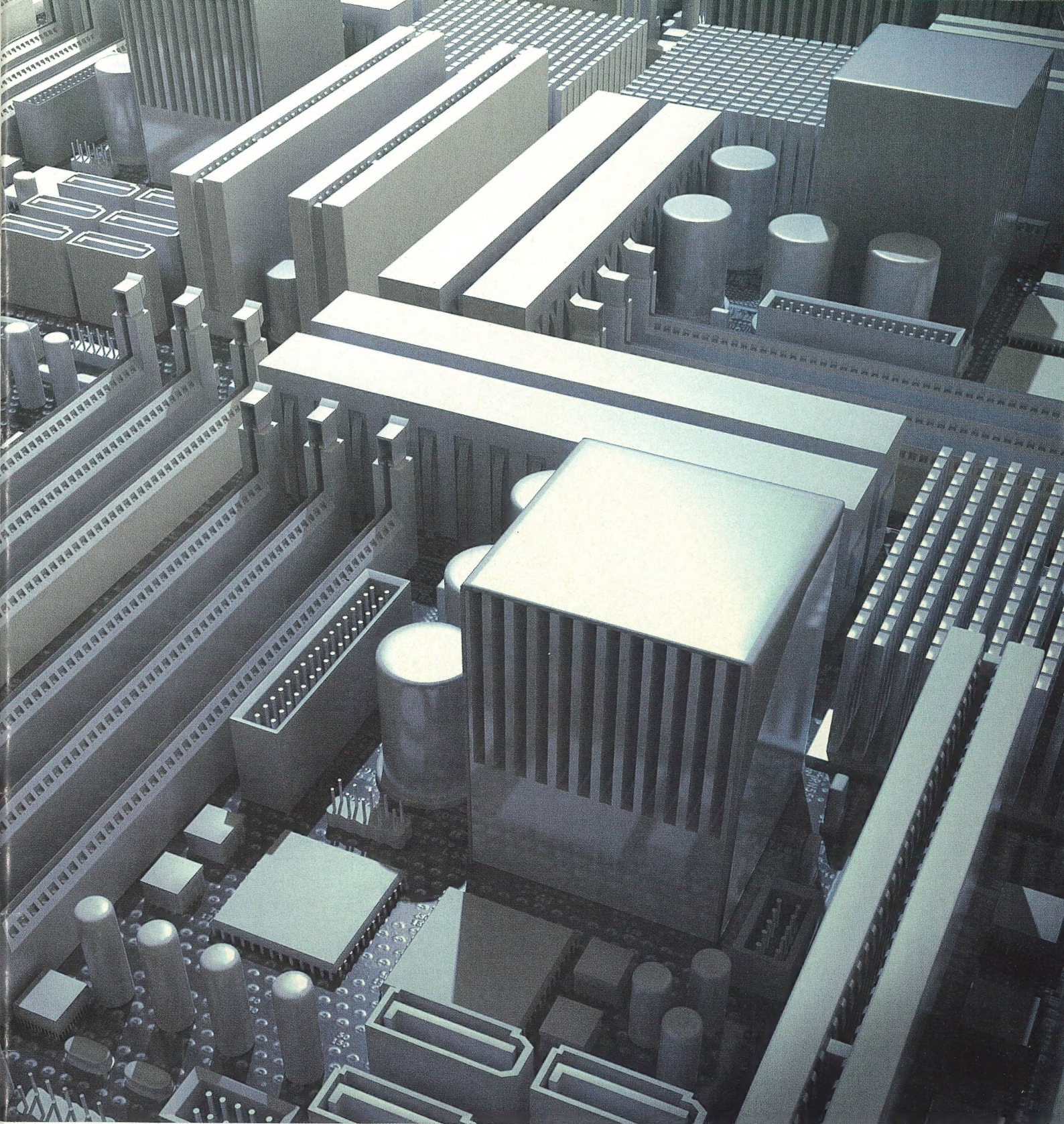
PEDAL TO THE METAL

CHEERS FOR introducing me to Blessed By A Broken Heart! Spandex and mullets will be popular once again!

TOM, VIA TEXT.

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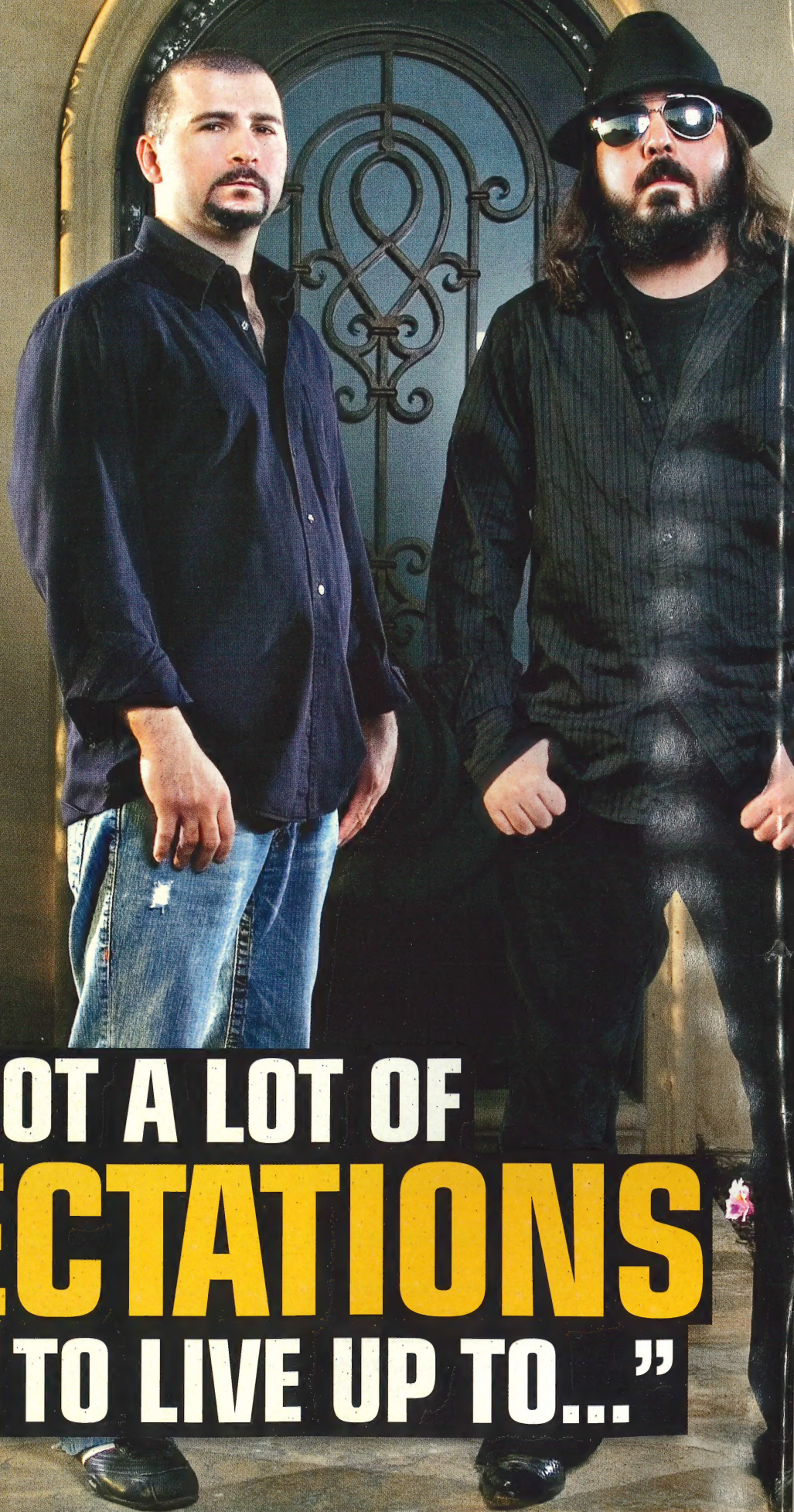
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News

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**“WE’VE GOT A LOT OF
EXPECTATIONS
TO LIVE UP TO...”**

SYSTEM OF A DOWN MEN UNVEIL SCARS ON BROADWAY

AS SYSTEM OF A Down's hiatus has seen frontman Serj Tankian carve a niche for himself as a solo artist, his bandmates – guitarist Daron Malakian and drummer John Dolmayan – have been hard at work recording their *Scars On Broadway* debut album.

For weeks, when the curious checked out *Scars On Broadway*'s official website (www.scarsonbroadway.com), they would only see an ominous message in white letters on a black background stating *They Say It's All About To End*, with countdown clock running below. But for Malakian and Dolmayan, that countdown is less about an end than a beginning.

Now, the wait is over. The band have posted *They Say*, a tantalising taste of their debut album which will be released later this year. Although many details are being kept firmly under wraps, Malakian and Dolmayan took a quick break from mixing to discuss System's status and the appeal of getting a new band off the ground.

A LOT OF FANS WILL WONDER HOW MUCH SCARS ON BROADWAY WILL SOUND LIKE SYSTEM...

MALAKIAN: "There are moments on this record that will feel like it's related to System, but it doesn't really look like System. Like, when you can kinda tell that two people are related but they don't look alike? There are moments like that. But this song *They Say* – I don't remember writing songs like this [in System]."

BUT WHAT CAUSED THE BAND TO TAKE A BREAK?

MALAKIAN: "You know how people separate because of 'creative differences'? I'd say System was more like that than any kind of hatred. The differences were respected instead of resented. I knew Serj [Tankian] had certain things he wanted to do that he couldn't do in System. I had a whole thing I wanted to do that I probably couldn't have done in System. It wasn't like, 'Fuck him for that!'. I look at it as a long separation but not necessarily a divorce."

DOLMAYAN: "If you're asking if we hate each other, we don't!"

WHAT IS THEY SAY ABOUT?

MALAKIAN: "Frustration. People piss me off. Contradictions... marketing... commercials... It's a rock song. It's got a lot of attitude. It borderlines that rock/metal thing."

DOLMAYAN: "It's got a lot of that punk rock element of early AC/DC stuff, too. It's very driving. It's got a very heavy feeling without being especially fast, too. It's got a lot of power to it."

FRUSTRATION AND CONTRADICTIONS. ARE THOSE THINGS YOU'VE BEEN MORE AWARE OF BECAUSE YOU WERE IN A SUCCESSFUL BAND?

DOLMAYAN: "You gain wisdom as you get older, no matter what you do for a living. Whether it's being in a band or being a doctor or a writer or whatever you do. So you're also gonna gain perspective within that wisdom. You look at things – sometimes more clearly, sometimes from somebody else's point of view. You're more accepting of other people's views. Hopefully, that's what happens. Being in a band that was as popular as System definitely gave us a different perspective on things than most people have, at least in the music industry. But I've learned more from people that aren't in the industry than I have from people that are."

YOU HAVE OTHER PEOPLE THAT ASSISTED ON THE ALBUM AND WILL BE PLAYING WITH YOU LIVE, BUT IS

THE BAND REALLY JUST YOU TWO?

MALAKIAN: "This is our brainchild. I write the songs; John takes care of a lot of things on the business level that he's better than I am at. We work as a team to take this band to where we're going. The funny thing is that I would never have dreamed that John would be in this band with me. There were a couple drummers before John – really good drummers – but it just wasn't working out in different ways. I called up John after trying out a few people because he's always played well to the songs I've written. We know each other, he knows my bad, he knows my good. He's not this mysterious guy walking through the door. I felt really at home with John. I was surprised and he was surprised."

DOLMAYAN: "Yeah, I made the offer to everybody in the band, like, if they needed help with their projects, because I was happy to help out. That's what I would do for a family member. It was a surprise to both of us – it ended up not only working out great, but our relationship has gotten so much better than it was."

MALAKIAN: "That's the funny thing. If there were any two people that had friction in System Of A Down, it was me and him. (laughs) So that's like the trip about it. We're getting along so well. I feel closer to him now than I ever did in System Of A Down."

DOLMAYAN: "And vice versa."

DARON, DID YOU PRODUCE THE ALBUM? WE UNDERSTAND THAT RICK RUBIN HELPED OUT.

MALAKIAN: "I produced the whole thing. Rick came in and gave some pointers. Not really sound and production, but more like... we were still rehearsing in the studio and he said, 'Hey, maybe you should do that chorus twice'. Which has been a big part of what Rick did for us in System. He kinda came in and helped me out as an ear. That's really what I've relied on Rick for in the last 10 years – that ear that I respect. And he came and gave that to us, and that was really cool."

PEOPLE WILL WONDER WHAT THE FUTURE OF SYSTEM IS.

MALAKIAN: "We'll all know when the time is right..."

DOLMAYAN: "It'll just happen."

MALAKIAN: "Yeah. It'll feel good and happen. I can respect this situation [System's hiatus] more than I can respect the situation where two people are like, 'The lead singer fucked my girlfriend!' and that kind of bullshit. Nah, man. The lead singer is a special person to me and I am to him. And that's how we ended off. Same with Shavo, same with John. And it will always be. It was a big part of my life. We were onstage together for a long time, man. We went through shit as a band and friends – we slept in RVs together!"

SO WITH SCARS, IT'S LIKE YOU'RE STARTING ALL OVER AGAIN.

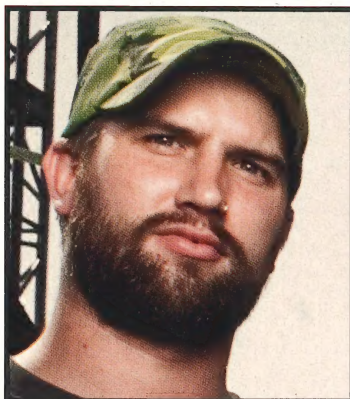
MALAKIAN: "I think System gives us a little bit more leverage [with *Scars*] than we had when we first started System. We wouldn't be talking to you right now! (laughs) When System started, they said, 'You guys won't get signed because you're all Armenian'. It became one of the points of the band that separated us from a bunch of bands. The things we had to put up with System, *Scars* doesn't put up with. It's a strange thing: System could help *Scars* in some ways, but sometimes System hurts *Scars* because of expectations to live up to and all that shit. The way I feel you do it is, don't feel you got to live up to anything. Just be honest about it. Just do what's real to you, and I think that'll rub off. As a writer, that's the philosophy I've tried to keep."

Dolmayan (left) and Malakian: guess who forgot that Serj was on tour

Feedback

What do you think of *Scars On Broadway*'s new song *They Say*? Tell us on www.kerrang.com.

MY FAVOURITE SHIT



Keith Buckley

EVERY TIME I DIE

FAVOURITE BOOK?

"Either *White Noise* by Don DeLillo or *Mr Palomar* by Italo Calvino. *White Noise* is a perfect embodiment of what it feels like to lose the innocence of childhood, but Calvino's book is everything you've thought about trivial things that happen to you, and have never considered putting them into words."

FAVOURITE SMELL?

"My own farts."

FAVOURITE MILKSHAKE?

"Chocolate malt for sure. Unless they have a pussy-flavoured one I don't know about."

FAVOURITE COLOUR?

"Clear."

FAVOURITE SEXUAL FANTASY?

"I want to masturbate with a bird sitting on my shoulder."

FAVOURITE MEAL?

"Crab legs in a butter tank for sure. Hot crab legs, though, not like casino ones, real ones, like red lobster."

FAVOURITE MOVIE STAR?

"My main man William Murray, otherwise known as Bill. He can do no wrong."

FAVOURITE BON JOVI TRACK?

"I know it's cliché, but *Wanted Dead Or Alive* is such a classic."

FAVOURITE DANCE MOVE?

"The robot. But only when my fiancée does it."

FAVOURITE MOSH PIT?

"Any one where there's a girl who dresses like it's 1996 involved."

FAVOURITE RUDE WORD?

"Ipswich."

FAVOURITE ALCHOLIC BEVERAGE?

"A Bloody Mary or a Dirty Vodka Martini are probably my favourites."

FAVOURITE PIE?

"Hair. I think that's my second 'pussy' joke in this interview. I suck."



▲ **SHINY-FACED GUNS N' ROSES** frontman Axl Rose has finished work on the long-awaited album *Chinese Democracy*. The band's label Geffen has confirmed they are in possession of the album – which cost a reported £6.5 million to make – and are currently fleshing out an agreement with Rose over its release.

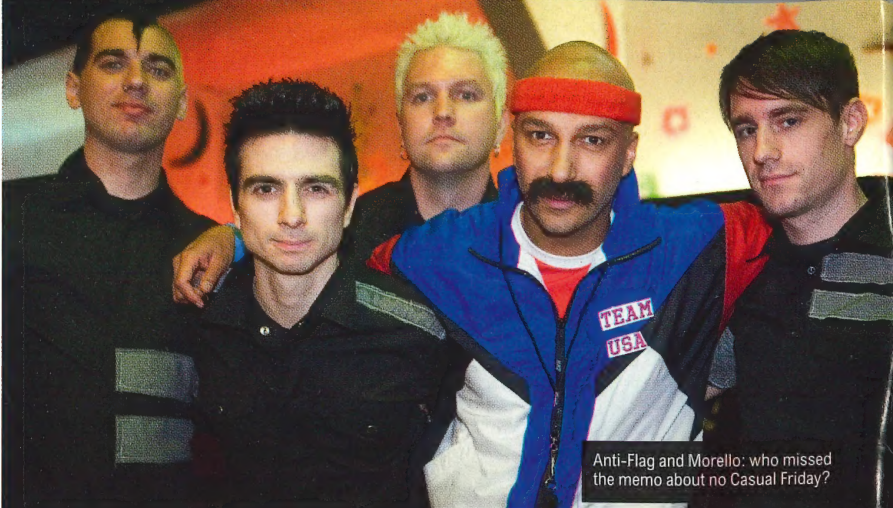
● **FORMER FEAR FACTORY** bassist Christian Olde Wolbers and drummer Raymond Herrera have formed a new band with Threat Signal vocalist Jon Howard. Arkaea will begin recording their debut album which will be released in the autumn through Koch. Check out their demo at www.myspace.com/arkaeamusic.

● **DEAD TO FALL**, the Chicago metallers who recently featured in Kerrang!'s Introducing section (issue 1204), have called it a day. That was a waste of everyone's time, then, wasn't it? "The Dead To Fall machine broke beyond repair this last weekend," says frontman Jon Hunt. "I guess the financial, personal and emotional strains wore some of us down and caused a violent collapse."



▲ **FALL OUT BOY** bassist Pete Wentz has announced his engagement to his girlfriend of two years, Ashlee Simpson. The news was revealed on his website www.friendsorenemies.com on April 9. "We know there has been a lot of speculation recently about Pete and I, and we wanted our fans to be the first to know, because you guys are the best," says Simpson.

● **DEFTONES** have posted an update on deftonesstudio.blogspot.com about Eros, their follow-up to 2006's *Saturday Night Wrist*. "Hard for me to describe what this record will sound like," writes vocalist Chino Moreno. "There is also some of that good old, 'Fuck you, I hope you die' aggression I know a lot of you love and miss from us."



Anti-Flag and Morello: who missed the memo about no Casual Friday?

ANTI-FLAG TEAM UP WITH RAGE GUITARIST FOR NEW VIDEO

ANTI-FLAG teamed up with Rage Against the Machine guitarist Tom Morello and a host of roller derby girls for a video for *The Bright Lights Of America*.

"The video demonstrates the audacity and the craziness of the seemingly endless war," bassist Chris #2 tells Kerrang!. "So we were trying to get that across in a funny and interesting way. In the video, there are various teams that represent various places in the world and various nationalities. Team USA comes out and plays dirty and wipes the floor with everyone. Throughout all of that, you have Tom Morello as the coach for Team USA – he's a fiery coach and he's out for blood! He gets the ladies to perform at their peak!"

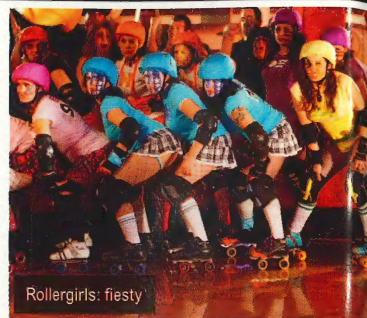
"We've known Tom for many years now," he adds. "Rage took us out in 1999 during the Battle Of Los Angeles tour and just recently we went out with them in Australia. Tom's also helped us with our last three records as a spiritual guru and producer. We asked him to come along and he had a really funny moustache on for duration of the shoot."

The Los Angeles Roller Derby team and a group of fans took part in the 20-hour show, with many suffering on-set injuries.

"They definitely went for it," he explains. "One girl sprained her knee, another broke her collar bone – she lost control and fell into the wall. That girl was tough as nails, though – she went to the hospital, got fixed up and came back to watch the rest of the shoot! She was awesome."

"But our fans were the biggest troopers of all," he smiles. "Some of them showed up at 5am and were there until we finished which was about 1am. It was definitely a brutal day! They were just ravenous – spitting and high-fiving each other. It was great!"

Look out for the video soon on www.kerrang.com.



Rollergirls: fiesty



There's no party like an anti-capitalist party



IN CASE OF FIRE SIGN MAJOR LABEL DEAL

In Case Of Fire: busy bees

NORTHERN IRISH trio In Case Of Fire have just signed a record deal with 20:20/Zomba and are set to record their debut full-length with UK producer Gil Norton.

"We are happy boys at the moment," drummer Colin Robinson tells Kerrang!. "We have had interest from a bunch of labels for a while, but the label just came in and took everybody by surprise. We had a meeting with them, and everything really seemed to click!"

With a deal now in place, the band are heading straight into a Belfast studio with Norton – who has previously worked with such heavy-hitters as Foo Fighters, Funeral For A Friend and Jimmy Eat World.

"If someone has asked us a year ago who we would love to work with, Gil's name would have been up there," grins Robinson. "We've already recorded two singles with him, and he's really good and really up for new

ideas. He pushes you really hard, without you even knowing you have been pushed. It's been a pleasure working with him!"

With debut single, *This Time We Stand* arriving in July, and a full-length set for release in September, 2008 is shaping up to be a very busy year for the three-piece.

"Single, album, festivals and tours," says Robinson. "That's just how we like it!" For more info, visit www.myspace.com/incaseoffireuk.

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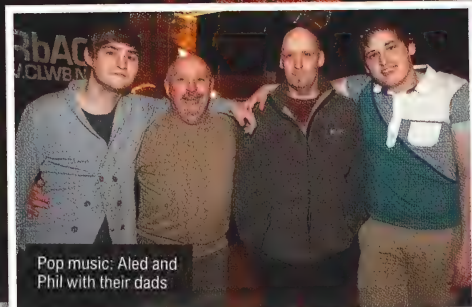
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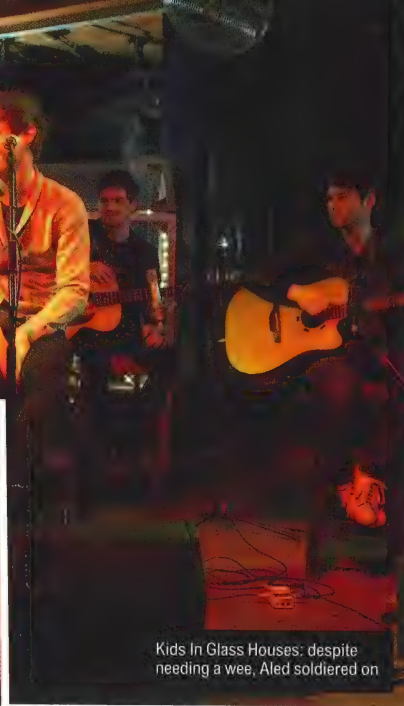
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THE FAN-TO-FAN TICKET EXCHANGE





Pop music: Aled and Phil with their dads



Kids In Glass Houses: despite needing a wee, Aled soldiered on

KIDS IN GLASS HOUSES STRIP DOWN IN FRONT OF FAMILY

KIDS IN Glass Houses recorded an acoustic set before a tiny audience in Cardiff on April 5. The South Wales quintet appeared before one hundred competition winners, friends and proud family members in Clwb Ifor Bach to record a show for an upcoming DVD.

For a band who are used to playing in front of much larger crowds, this afternoon show caused the band to have a severe case of the jitters before taking to the intimate stage.

"It was actually really terrifying playing in front of my parents," vocalist Aled Phillips tells Kerrang!. "They brought their friends too which made it so horrible. But it's okay. My dad is pretty good at calming down any situation, really."

The half hour set consisted of their current single Easy Tiger, Lovely Bones, Raise Hell, Pillow Talk, Saturday and Give Me What I Want, as well as a cover of the Prince classic, Raspberry Beret.

"Overall, this was a lot of fun even though we didn't practise a whole lot beforehand," smiles Phillips. "We worked hard and it worked out okay. Except for when Shay dropped his bass, even though he wasn't even playing it at the time. We had the idea to do this ages ago and it was really nice to see it finally happen. It was really good fun."

The DVD will be available as part of the special edition version of Kids In Glass House's debut full-length album, Smart Casual, due out May 26.

HIGH FIVE!

My top five...

Alaskan delights



BROCK LINDOW
36 CRAZYFISTS

THE MOUNTAINS

"Everywhere that you go in Alaska will be surrounded by mountains. They're really beautiful and majestic. As a kid I'd camp out in them as much as I could, especially in summer."

THE RIVERS

"I'm a big fisherman, so I've got to say the rivers. Alaska is famous for its world-class salmon, so that should go some way towards telling you just how clean and fresh the water is."

THE ICE HOCKEY

"Call me predictable, but I've got to say hockey! Hockey is really big in Alaska,

so when I'm home my life is pretty much split between that, fishing and my wife."

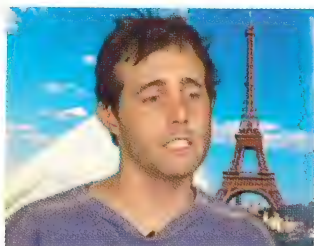
THE NORTHERN LIGHTS

"The Northern Lights are absolutely amazing. There are only a few places in the world that get them, so whenever people come to visit they're usually the first thing they ask about."

THE CLEAN AIR

"It probably seems like a weird choice, but it really is amazing. I've known a lot of people who have been really surprised at just how fresh the air is here. It's very clean and very cold. You can definitely tell the difference."

ONLINE SHIT THAT MAKES US LAUGH

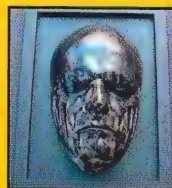


LONELY HEARTS ARE SOMETIMES LONELY FOR A REASON

The Perfect Dating Agency had a mammoth task on their hands when the dead-eyed loser Bobby Batronik rolled through their doors looking for love.

Socially inept and slightly creepy, Batronik claims to possess a dinosaur-sized brain and claims to be so "good at sex", you'll be in his bedroom so long "your picture will end up on the back of a milk carton". Ladies, form an orderly queue, this silver-tongued charmer could be all yours...

FIND IT: www.youtube.com (tags: dating, perfect)



▲ CELTIC FROST

frontman Tom G Fischer is making deathmasks of his grumpy face available through www.myspace.com/antecedent_death. "I cast each death mask individually by hand," says Fischer. Guaranteed to cheer up any living room, if all you think about is the futility of your own mortality. And cry.

● DARKEST HOUR

have recorded a new song called Washington Caps Fight Song in honour of their local ice hockey team. "There's this Panthera theme for the Dallas Stars that I stumbled upon," guitarist Mike Schleibaum tells the Washington Post. "We would rock it all the time in the van on tour. We had some down time in between tours, had a few beers and were like, 'Fuck it, let's record that Caps theme!'"



▲ MELVINS guitarist

Buzz Osborne has revealed that Cheers and It's Always Sunny In Philadelphia actor Danny DeVito (above) will appear on Fantômas-Melvins Big Band's Live from London 2006 DVD commentary, which is released in July through Ipecac. "Mike Patton is friends with Danny DeVito, and he agreed to come down," Osborne tells Billboard. "It doesn't really have anything to do with the DVD. We got to ask him any question you can possibly think. He told us some really great stories."

● ALKALINE TRIO

have posted a new song entitled Help Me from their forthcoming album Agony And Irony, which will be released in the summer. You can check it out at www.myspace.com/alkalinetrio. The punk trio will play Give It A Name on May 10 and 11.

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THE COMPUTERS

RAUCOUS PUNK ROCK FURY FROM DEVON

WORDS: KATIE PARSONS PHOTO: PAUL HARRIES

EXETER-BASED punk 'n' rollers The Computers do everything at warp speed. Whether that's belting out low-fi garage-rock in under two-minutes, nattering their way through their list of prior line-up compadres or scrambling at a giddy rate up the rickety ladder to nationwide success – these four Brit newcomers are leaving a strip of blazing tarmac in their wake.

"We only formed about a year and a half ago," grins bassist/vocalist Nic Heron, who is joined by Alex Kershaw on vocals/guitar, Sonny Crawford on guitar and Will Wright on drums. "For so long, we just had three songs, and it's only in the last few months that we have been able to play actual full-length sets! Stuff has all been happening

pretty quickly since then..."

In the 18 months they've been strutting their stuff around the UK, the group have notched up ticket stubs with the likes of Paint It Black, New Mexican Disaster Squad, Gay For Johnny Depp, Outcry Collective and Swedish punks the Peacocks, to name but a few.

"I used to work in a venue, and I must have seen thousands of shows, and I know which ones I remember" says Kershaw. "So we try and make sure we are an exciting live band. There's nothing worse than going to see a boring show!"

Musically, The Computers cite everything from Chuck Berry to Rocket From The Crypt and Give Up The Ghost to The Bronx among their influences. The resulting sonic collision has them spitting out a delicious,

brand new type of infectious noise.

"It's new wave and rock 'n' roll meets hardcore," explains Kershaw. "If you slow down our songs, they turn into 12-bar dancing, rock 'n' roll music. We wanted to do something no one else was doing. That's our major strength. It's not how well we play, it's the fact we're odd."

"Yeah," nods Heron proudly, "Freaky music for freaky people."



FOR FANS OF: Rocket From The Crypt, The Hives

HEAR: Upcoming spilt with Hearts Under Fire, and tracks online now.

MORE INFO: www.myspace.com/thecomputersfromexeter

The Computers:
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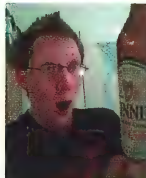
THE BURNING QUESTION

ONLINE RUMOURS SUGGEST AXL ROSE IS SET TO STAR IN HIS OWN REALITY TV SERIES. IS THIS A DISASTER WAITING TO HAPPEN?



TERRI, 14
LONDON

"Hell yeah! How boring would that programme be? He'd always be late! I wouldn't watch it..."



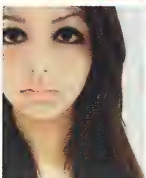
BIG JON, 29
HACKNEY

"Any respect I had for Mr Rose went out of the window years ago. Let the ginger-haired muppet do what he wants."



CHRIS W, 18
COTTINGHAM

"Axl Rose joins Paris Hilton and Jessica Simpson in the list of 'divas' having a hissy fit on their own reality show. Seems about right..."



RINA, 16
LONDON

"Next thing we know, he'll be reduced to butter ads like Ozzy. Don't do it Axl!"

TO SHARE YOUR VIEWS ON NEXT WEEK'S BURNING QUESTION GO WWW.KERRANG.COM

PLANET K!



THIS WEEK

KERRANG.COM Check out all the latest news as it happens, preview the wolf-tastic Cancer Bats video and check out the latest must-hear tracks in our features section. Plus, download our audio and video podcasts until your hard drive bursts!

KERRANG! TV Tune into Sky Channel 358 or Virgin Channel 342 for your daily dose of all the best rock videos. From Brigade to Linkin Park, Elliot Minor to Guns N'Roses, it's like having a festival in your living room. Without the vomit and agonising sunburn.

KERRANG! RADIC Point your rodent at www.kerrangradio.co.uk for all the latest goings on at the most rocking station around. In other news, The Morning After shock rock jock Tim Shaw will demonstrate the laws of gravity by juggling some stray cats he found near his dustbin.

14 KERRANG!



▲ **TOOL** frontman Maynard James Keenan has revealed he'd rather hang out with wine connoisseurs than rock fans. Keenan – who owns vineyards in Sedona, Arizona – tells *The Pulse Of Radio*: "Generally speaking, the people that are into wine are generally adults and respect people's space, and it's not about the person who made it, it's about the wine. There's definitely a calmer admiration that goes on in those circles." Oh, get you with your cheeky *Pinot Noir*.

● **TERROR** have uploaded a new track to their MySpace page – from forthcoming new album *The Damned, The Shamed*, which is due out on May 26 through Century Media. In related news, the band have started an ongoing tour report online, which can be viewed at www.mtv.no/terrorblog.



▲ **KORN** will be releasing a live DVD through Eagle Rock Entertainment on May 12. Korn Live At Montreux features the band's performance at the Stravinski Auditorium from 2004 – with the classic Korn line-up, including Brian 'Head' Welch and drummer David Silveria. Their cover of Pink Floyd's *Another Brick In The Wall* is what your remote's skip button was made for.

● **NINE INCH NAILS** have reinstated former guitarist Robin Finck for their forthcoming US tour. Finck, who has most recently played in Guns N'Roses, joins Trent Reznor, Alessandro Cortini and Josh Freese for their July tour.

● **KINGDOM OF SORROW**, the band featuring Jamey Jasta and Kirk Windstein, have uploaded a video for their track *Lead Into Demise*. Check it out at vids.myspace.com.



STP: probably not playing Slither

STONE TEMPLE PILOTS RETURN WITH SHOW AT HOUDINI'S HOME

STONE TEMPLE PILOTS played for the first time since 2002 on April 7 in the grounds of a Hollywood mansion that once belonged to magician Harry Houdini.

The band performed a 30-minute set after a press conference during which the foursome – featuring former Velvet Revolver vocalist Scott Weiland, bassist Robert DeLeo, guitarist Dean DeLeo and drummer Eric Kretz – revealed details of a 65-date reunion tour, which kicks off on May 17 in Columbus, Ohio.

The official announcement comes just weeks after Weiland put the future of Velvet Revolver in jeopardy, when he told the crowd at Glasgow Academy on March 20 that they were witnessing the supergroup's last ever tour. He was officially sacked from the band amid much acrimony on April 1, with his former bandmates citing his "increasingly erratic onstage behaviour and personal problems" as reason for his dismissal.

"It's been five years we've been apart, and there's all these young kids who had older brothers who were STP fans, and now they're

STP fans," says Weiland. "These kids come up to me all the time and tell me they loved the band and they have all of our records. The goal of this band was to leave a legacy."

The band have started writing material for their follow-up to 2001's *Shangri-La Dee Da* and aim to enter the studio as early as September. Weiland says that they may set up their own label to release the album.

"The whole record machine is fucked up now, so we really want to get to a place of having some freedom, because we have a lot of leverage," says the singer. "We've sold almost 40 million records, and we're in a position of power. We want to be free agents, whether it's putting our records out ourselves, or doing some interesting, very creative deal with a non-traditional major record label. The system as it is now... that formula does not work. We've seen it; we'll need to do things differently, do things wiser."

Go to page 32 to see Weiland's former Velvet Revolver bandmates discuss his dismissal and the future of the band.

Photo: Wireimage

MAIDEN OFFER FANS VIRTUAL TASTER OF BEST-OF ALBUM

IRON MAIDEN are set to release *Somewhere Back In Time*, a best-of collection spanning their '80s releases.

The 15-track record will be available to buy on CD and double-disc picture vinyl, and will also be downloadable for free as the *Somewhere Best In Sound* experience. Fans who visit the band's official site, www.ironmaiden.com, will be able to listen to the whole album three times over for free.

"We recognise that our ever-increasing fan-base is very young and can't be expected to know all the earlier albums, which is why we have put this collection together," explains Maiden's manager Rod Smallwood. "This is both an introduction to the band's recording history and a chance for young fans to try a full-length Maiden album and realise they're getting the real deal!"

In related news, the group have revealed they will be putting out a feature-length documentary based around their ongoing *Somewhere Back In Time* world tour. Directed by Scot McFadyen and Sam Dunn (the men behind the successful *Metal: A Headbanger's Journey*) – with audio mixed by producer



Kevin Shirley (HIM, Aerosmith) – the upcoming movie will chart the group's world journey on this legendary tour.

"This is such an incredible and exciting tour that we agreed with Scot and Sam's proposal to document it," says Smallwood. "A record of this is something that the band and myself would love to have and hope that many of you fans may feel the same – there has never been a tour quite like this before!"

Iron Maiden play Twickenham Stadium on July 5.

Introducing

NEW MUSIC COMING YOUR WAY...

ETERNAL LORD

UK DEATH METALLERS TACKLE THEIR DEMONS

WORDS: DAN SLESSOR PHOTO: DAVE WILLIS

WHETHER YOU think it needs it or not, Eternal Lord are here to kick the UK metal scene in its arse with their destructive deathcore and unrestrained loathing for the stagnancy of the music that surrounds them.

"There are a couple of bands who've done really well for themselves and done something unique and different, but there's a lot of shit out there with people more concerned with image than anything else," vocalist Ed Butcher sighs. "We bring a lot of diversity to the table. There are a lot of dimensions to our music – and we're not checking our haircuts in the mirror before heading out the door..."

Initially formed in Swindon in 2005, Butcher

joined in early 2007 after exiting Australian metalcore mob I Killed The Prom Queen, hooking up with guitarists Chris Gregory and Shaun Zerebecki, bassist Nick Gardner, and drummer Stuart Mackay. Having supported the likes of All That Remains and Misery Signals between sold-out headline tours, the band eventually signed to Golf Records in the UK, and striking a deal with the highly respected Ferret Records for a US release of their devastating debut full-length, *Blessed Be This Nightmare*.

"We didn't sit down and say we were gonna write the most metal or hardcore album ever, we just wanted to write a bunch of songs that we enjoyed playing," Butcher explains. "The lyrics mainly deal with the theme of nightmares, the idea of some kind of monster or demon chasing you and you

can't get away."

And in case you were wondering, their monicker doesn't allude to any shared Christian faith...

"We often get messages on the internet asking us if we're a Christian band, and we definitely aren't, I hate all religion," Butcher laughs. "I think Eternal Lord's a name sometimes given to the Devil, but it's kind of a joke anyway, we don't have satanic leanings..."



FOR FANS OF: Job For A Cowboy, The Acacia Strain.
HEAR: *Blessed Be This Nightmare* out now on Golf/Ferret Records.

MORE INFO: www.myspace.com/eternallord



Eternal Lord: sound of the streets



Opeth: extreme progression

OPETH RETURN WITH BRAND NEW ALBUM

SWEDISH PROG metal titans Opeth are set to release their new album *Watershed* this summer.

As the follow-up to 2005's critically acclaimed *Ghost Reveries*, the Swedes are ready with seven brand new tunes – plus one extra gem for a forthcoming Special Edition.

"It's much more personal than any of the previous records," vocalist Mikael Åkerfeldt tells *Kerrang!*. "Musically I think there's certainly a progression from the previous albums. There's some parts that I think are faster than ever before, but there's also obviously many parts that are calm and melodic, and some bits are a new sound for us."

Recorded at the Fascination Street Studios near Stockholm, Opeth once again worked with Jens Bogren at the production helm, who also contributed to the group's last release.

"Jens scheduled the recording so we had a certain amount of time for everyone to finish their parts and it was good working to a structure that way," says Åkerfeldt. "We got up at eight in the morning, recorded until seven in the evening and then at midnight everybody went to bed. We weren't wasting time. I wrote the lyrics in one night pretty much!"

With guest vocal performances, and professional musicians contributing everything from violins to flutes, cellos and oboes – the record is sure to be another mind-opening exploration into new musical territory.

"I still like a good song better than an original song; and a combination of the two is probably the best," smiles Åkerfeldt. "I try to come up with good songs first and foremost, and then it's obviously a little bit of a plus if it's pushing the band forward..."

Opeth's new album *Watershed* will be out on June 2 through Roadrunner.



Ash: carting around



Airbourne: philosophical



Elliot Minor: relish

"GOLF CARTS ARE THE BEST THING ABOUT OUTDOOR FESTIVALS!"

ASH PROMISE ROAD SAFETY AT DOWNLOAD 2008

ASH, AIRBOURNE and Elliot Minor are the latest bands to have confirmed their appearance at this year's *Kerrang!*-sponsored Download Festival.

Other bands set to join the three-day – which takes place at Donington Park on June 13, 14 and 15 – are Pendulum, Black Stone Cherry and Kiss guitarist Ace Frehley.

"We're only making a couple of UK festival appearances this summer, so it's gonna be great," Ash guitarist Tim Wheeler tells *Kerrang!*. "I guess we'll just be trying to rock really hard!"

If you see the frontman driving around the festival site on a stolen golf cart, though, it's probably best you keep out of the way.

"Golf carts are one of the best things about festivals," he laughs. "We almost killed the singer from Goldfrapp once by reversing really fast without checking what was behind us. At a festival last year, Mark [Hamilton, bass] and one of his best mates drove a golf cart down a flight of about 30 stairs and survived. Those things

have better suspension on them than you'd think. We'll be considerate drivers this year."

One band who will be too busy drinking their rider are Aussie hard rockers Airbourne. Frontman Joel O'Keeffe took time out from headbanging to give us a philosophical viewpoint on the event.

"The echoes in the fields of Donington from the greatest rock 'n' roll bands in the world will remain forever," says O'Keeffe. "It's an honour for us to join them. Long live rock 'n' roll!"

Pendulum, meanwhile, are preparing for the ritual bottle-throwing at the festival.

"Bring on the bottles of piss!" laughs vocalist Rob Swire. "Not really, please have mercy!"

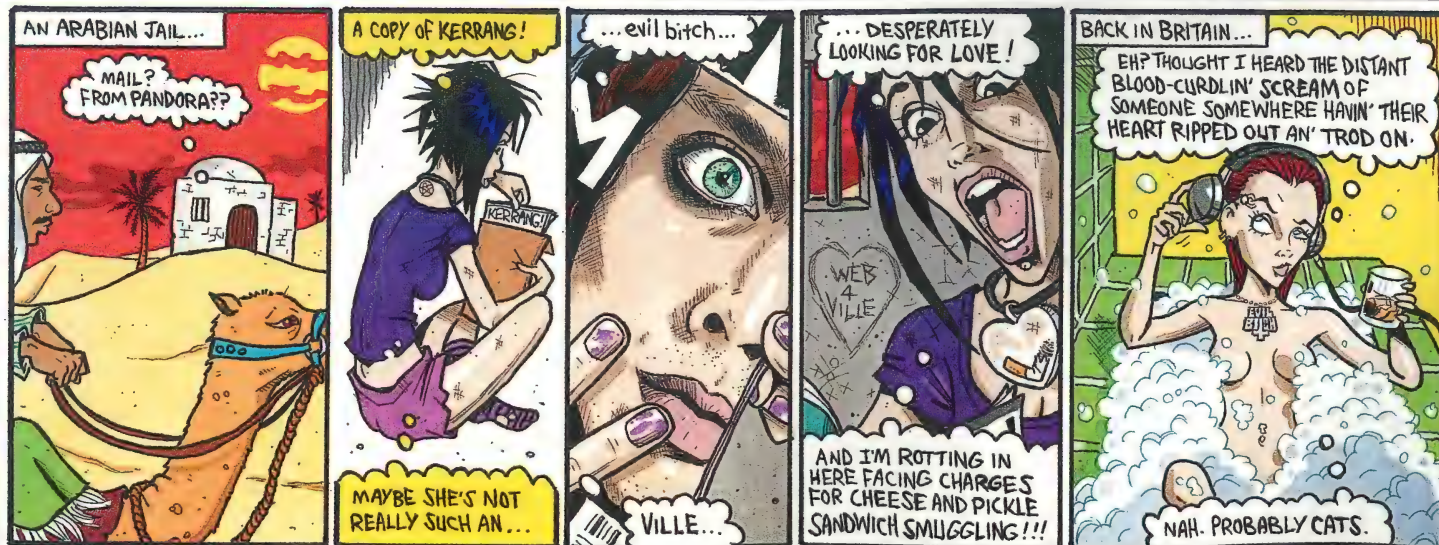
Elliot Minor are relishing their second appearance at Download.

"Download is an amazing festival," says frontman Alex Winter. "We're already talking about the set we will do. We can't wait!"

More bands will be announced soon. For ticket details, and all the latest news updates, please visit www.downloadfestival.co.uk.

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WORDS: LESLIE SIMON PHOTOS: NEIL VISEL

KILLER BANDS PLAY TO QUIET KIDS AT CALIFORNIA SUPER-FEST.

SATURDAY

SURE, THOUSANDS of kids and reluctant parents swarm the parking lot at the Verizon Amphitheater to see more than 100 bands on six stages over the two-day Bamboozle Left fest, but if you could describe the crowd reaction in two words, they would be "totally bored". The first time we see the audience even feign excitement is, ironically enough, while singing along to **STORY OF THE YEAR (KK)** and their anthem of apathy *We Don't Care Anymore*. **NEW FOUND GLORY (KKKK)** guitarist Chad Gilbert tries to incite circle-pits throughout the band's set, but fans seem more interested in seeing Gilbert's alleged Paramore paramour Hayley Williams sing on their cover of Johnny Cash's *It Ain't Me* than getting their groove on to NFG songs like *All Downhill From Here*.

JIMMY EAT WORLD (KKK) attract a huge crowd to their sugar-sweet emo, while **PARAMORE (KK)** attract Twisted Sister singer Dee Snider and his daughter. Presumably Snider wants to rock, but he won't have much luck with Paramore's phoned-in performance today.

THE ALL-AMERICAN REJECTS (KKKKK) close the evening with a killer performance, but not even high-energy hits like *Dirty Little Secret* and *Swing Swing* can combat the yawns coming from the tuckered-out throng. Maybe a good night's sleep will rejuvenate these California peeps.

SUNDAY

MAYBE NOT. Today's line-up is definitely harder, faster and louder than yesterday's, but that doesn't seem to have any effect on the hordes of immaculately styled emo kids stalking the grounds.

Today marks the return of **HAWTHORNE HEIGHTS (KKKK)**, following the tragic death of guitarist Casey Calvert last November. It's a slightly shaky, muted set, but to see them soldiering on is enough for now.

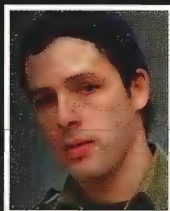
It's also the return of **FINCH (KKK)**, back after announcing an "indefinite hiatus" in February 2006. With diminutive frontman Nate Barcalow steering the ship, they bust out fan faves like *Letters To You*, *Stay With Me* and *What It Is To Burn*, before the evening ushers in **CHIODOS (KK)**, who we can barely see through their obnoxious smoke machine. Meanwhile **SUICIDE SILENCE (KKKKK)** and **THE DILLINGER ESCAPE PLAN (KKKKK)** are in the tents doing more than playing a concert; they're inciting a near-riot. Limbs are flying, circle-pits are swirling and Dillinger bassist Liam Wilson is wearing some dangerously short red hotpants as they bust through their spazzed-out metal explosions. Awesome.

They're no match for the pulling power and melodramatic prancing of **BLAQK AUDIO (KKK)** and a back-to-basics performance from **MY CHEMICAL ROMANCE (KKKKK)**, though. Now free of the Black Parade get-up and pumping out standards *I'm Not Okay...* and *Give 'Em Hell, Kid* with stripped-down vigour, Gerard Way and co close the festival with a boom, finally, at the 11th hour, generating enough chaos to make up for the rest of the weekend's crowd apathy.



Paramore: The G-force onstage was incredible

How was it for you?



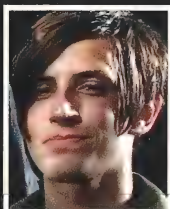
BEN WEINMAN (GUITAR, DEP) SAYS:

"It's totally awesome playing a festival like Bamboozle Left because we are usually very different then the other bands here. It's good to be the band that doesn't fit."



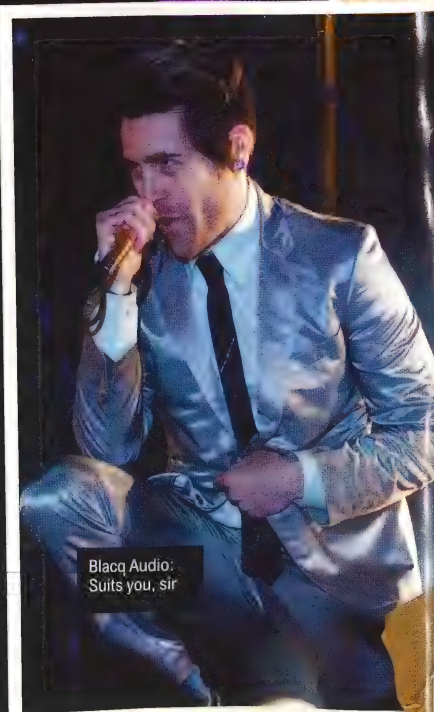
RANDY STROHMEYER (GUITAR, FINCH) SAYS:

"What have I got to say about the festival? It was fucking amaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaazing!"



MATT GODDARD (BASS, CHIODOS) SAYS:

"If you compare the Warped Tour to a summer camp, then this is like a day camp. It's very tolerable and you don't get too dirty. They're serving free booze backstage, so you can't go wrong."



Blaq Audio: Suits you, sir



Jimmy Eat World:
"Duuuude..."



Gerard Way forgot to
pack a hairbrush



Itchy-nut struck at the
worst possible time
for Jordan NFG



Chiodos' Barry
Manilow impression
was a winner



Story Of The Year:
"You put your right
leg in..."



Finch: Is that a tail?



X Japan: Unleashed in the East

X JAPAN

TOKYO DOME, TOKYO
28-30.03.08

KKKKKK

WORDS: NICK RUSSELL

THE JAPANESE GUNS N'ROSES RETURN WITH A BANG.

AT 9 o'clock in the morning, the queue outside the 50,000 seater Tokyo Dome baseball stadium already stretches for a good half a mile. And that's just the line for X Japan merchandise. By 6pm, these people – decked out in enormous red wigs, bright green PVC suits and black face masks – will have filled the stadium, waiting in near total silence for the first show by X Japan in a decade.

X Japan are one of those bands who couldn't play anywhere other than enormodomes, such is the sheer enormity of their music, a mix of Nightwish pomp, Guns N'Roses attitude and Bon Jovi crowd pleasing. There are *three* ego ramps for singer Toshimitsu Deyama to run

down, and, indeed, for drummer and band leader Yoshiki Hayashi to cruise down in his moving drum kit during his gobsmacking solo, backed by classical music. It's a bizarre, and wonderful, thing to see.

Sadly, on the first night, late onstage arrival means we don't get this. The band's late arrival has forced the rozzers to pull the plug if the show breaks curfew, and an apparently exhausted Hayashi ends the night instead 'collapsing' through his kit and being carried offstage by roadies.

The following two nights far outstrip the first's misfire, though. Playing for upwards of three hours, X Japan are faultless. When the crowd, unprompted, sing the chorus of IV (from the Saw IV soundtrack) unaccompanied for 10 minutes before the song starts, it's incredible. When Wes Borland and GN'R guitarist Richard Fortus appear onstage, it's a dazzling spectacle of light and volume. And when late guitarist Hideto Matsumoto appears onstage as a hologram to enormous cheers, it's downright weird. But above all, X Japan are sheer solid entertainment, and when a 20-minute drum solo can truthfully count as a staggering high point in a three hour set, those early-birds at the merch stand don't seem so mad after all.



DEVIL SOLD HIS SOUL

PLUS: THE MIRIMAR DISASTER

THE PITZ, MILTON KEYNES
29.03.08

KKKKK

AN EVENING OF FACE MELTING PROG-METAL AMBIENCE.

THERE MAY be only a few dozen punters present, but for those here early enough The Mirimar Disaster's twisted, dirt-encrusted grooves make for a truly thunderous opening. Butting the air in unison, each member doubled over in a way that most gymnasts would be proud of, the quartet are as powerful as ever, producing a rumble as mighty as anything the likes of Mastodon could muster. It's enough to make you think that, were they from Seattle rather than Sheffield, perhaps they'd be enjoying the recognition they truly deserve.

There's a visible swell by the time Devil Sold His Soul launch into the hulking atmospherics of As The Storm Unfolds, but despite this meaning the venue is still only half full, the sheer force hurling itself from the speakers makes the night feel like a genuine sense of occasion; intimate, exclusive and magical simultaneously. With a sound so densely layered that it makes the room feel almost cramped, songs such as the soaring Between Two Worlds are as ugly as they are beautiful, crashing down like waves as Ed Gibbs' banshee shrieks battle against a current of interwoven guitars. Despite most of the tracks aired passing the five-minute mark with ease, it's virtually impossible to avoid being swept up in their swirling, ever-evolving ambience, suggesting that the reward for such gloominess may be a surprisingly bright future.

RYAN BIRD

HEAVEN SHALL BURN

PLUS: ABORTED, MISERY
SPEAKS, METASTASIS

CAMDEN UNDERWORLD,
LONDON
02.04.08

KKKK

WHO CAN ARGUE WITH AN EVENING OF CONTINENTAL DEATH METAL?

KICKING OFF tonight are Metastasis, playing their first ever show. With Ted Maul singer Solomon at the fore, they give the impression that while their technical ability is sure enough, there's much more to come. Next up are German combo Misery Speaks. Their singer is clearly pleased to be here. Mulletted and moustachioed, he peppers some brutal breakdowns with some gnarly vocals while you try not to laugh at the tree trunk of a bass player emitting whiney calls-to-arms between songs.

The only whining to be heard as Belgian monsters Aborted take the stage is that of the immediately deafened front row. It's a wonder they're not headlining themselves, but as they flip time signatures and incite much mosh-pit carnage, you know they'll be top of the bill next time. Rising to the challenge, though, Heaven Shall Burn are the slick, proficient beast you hoped they'd be. Led by Marcus Bischoff, a man who would be as natural in the Deutsche Bank as in this grotty hellmouth, the Germans' unfettered brutality is delivered to a crowd that often threatens to overtake the stage with their frantic moshing. HSB, however, are in control here, and not a single person resists submitting to their death metal mauling.

RAZIQ RAUF



EVERY TIME I DIE

PLUS: DROP DEAD, GORGEOUS

ACADEMY II, OXFORD

05.04.08

KIKIKIKK

WORDS: RYAN BIRD PHOTOS: NICK STEVENS

NEW YORK HARDCORE AND ROLL CREW GET THE PARTY STARTED IN OXFORD.

IT'S HARD to see the appeal to Denver's Drop Dead, Gorgeous. Often billed as one of American metalcore's latest leading lights, tonight the only glow comes from the back of a perilously placed laptop. Flat, dated and cliché in the extreme, their downtuned breakdowns are about as welcome as MRSA in a maternity ward.

"It appears that I've split my pants," grins Every Time I Die frontman Keith Buckley, gesturing towards a precarious looking tear in his jeans. "I guess I'll just have to do the rest of the set with my crotch in your faces." Such an incident would usually be viewed as an unfortunate yet hilarious faux pas, but given that the New Yorkers have spent almost 10 years producing the type of rock and roll-infused hardcore that truly defines the term 'balls out', tonight it's all the more fitting. That it happens just two songs into their set is unsurprising, because much the same as every other time the band have inhabited these shores, tonight their show is one of unrivalled energy. An energy that positively explodes from the off, gathering pace over 60, sweat-drenched minutes. Tearing straight into recent single We're wolf, the band not only take the bull by the horns but proceed to ride, taunt and fuck it into submission. Before the third and final cowbell strike of the song's intro has even been completed, a gaping circle-pit has already swallowed up much of the floor. Three songs later (two after Buckley's jeans threaten to reveal all) and its appearance is one of a spin dryer approaching warp speed, sending as many bodies through the door as it does overhead, while the aptly-titled Floater sees pints of water pierce the air as often as the sea of devil horns beneath them.

Perhaps arguably, the best thing about the quintet – aside from the crispy, southern-fried riffs dished up by the bucket load – is that there's a delightfully tongue-in-cheek edge to almost every aspect of their performance. Stage right, guitarist Andy Williams sports a T-shirt bearing the monicker of his American crooner namesake. Up front Buckley is every inch the master showman, cracking jokes and displaying a charm that ensures every last pair of eyes and ears are his for the duration. During set-closer Ebolarama – a song that sees him shove the mic into the throng – he pauses momentarily, grinning as those before him scream in unison. And, really, it's the crowd themselves who have the final word.

'It doesn't get any better than this so run like hell' comes the cry. *'This is a fucking rock and roll takeover'*.

Buckley imagines what a shower would feel like

The onstage banana-peel strikes again

Keith Buckley:
Trousers intact

Is this you?



HELLO. YOU'VE won a copy of *If* by Mindless Self Indulgence, reviewed on page 46! To claim your album, send your name, address, a recent pic of yourself and the gig

ticket (both will be returned) to: *That's Me, Kerrang!*, PO BOX 2930, London, W1A 6DZ.

TOKYO DRAGONS

PLUS: GENTLEMAN'S PISTOLS
UNDERWORLD, LONDON
29.03.08

KKKK
TWO BANDS BATTLE, ONLY
ONE EMERGES VICTORIOUS.

THERE'S ABSOLUTELY no doubt that the Gentleman's Pistols have definitely done their homework. Full of psychedelic fretwork and rip-roaring riffage, this is a band well versed in the art of bong-lead '70s rock and roll. They riff like the Jimi Hendrix Experience, their vocalist has a beard that puts Grizzly Adams to shame and the audience make them return for an encore despite being tonight's opening act. Aside from falling into the odd pub-rock cliché, the Gentleman's Pistols are certainly worth keeping tabs on for the future. Having had such a great opening act on before them, the truth is that the Tokyo Dragons are a slightly limp follow-up. At their best, the Dragons can pull off a devastating hybrid of Thin Lizzy and the Supersuckers, and frontman Steve Lomax is more than capable of rousing any rabble with his piercing wail. However, the fly in the ointment is that the band's lack of variation means that they swiftly descend into infuriating, one-dimensional self-parody. If you imagine a stand-up comedian telling nothing but 'knock knock' jokes for 45 minutes, then that's what we're dealing with here. By no means are the Dragons a bad band. They just desperately need to establish a Plan B that would see them break free from the chains of tedium that currently bind them.

TERRY BEZER

PEARL

PLUS: MURDER IN MONOCHROME
BARFLY, LONDON
21.03.08

KKKK
BEEFY PERFORMANCE IN THE
CAPITAL FROM MEAT LOAF'S
LITTLE GIRL.

LONDONERS MURDER In Monochrome play to the early doors contingent with a short set of Muse-alike rock. Led by warbling singer/guitarist Tom Potts, songs like Burning Houses will certainly interest fans of the Teignmouth giants although at times it is a little too close to imitation to appeal. You can't fault their passion, even if Potts seems to have a cocky air of contempt for his audience. Tonight's headliner comes from a stellar rock pedigree – from touring and recording with her dad (a certain Meat Loaf) to the dubious honour of being one of Mötley Crüe's 'Crüe Sluts', tonight, however, is all about Pearl performing in her own right and what a fiery hellcat she is. Taking to the stage with a beaming smile that could light the Barfly on its own, she seems surprised that anyone is there, but once proceedings begin, it's clear why they are. Mama is an irresistible meeting of muscular riffage (courtesy of fiancé and Anthrax guitar legend Scott Ian), and her powerful, soulful voice. Worth defending strays perilously close to LeAnn Rimes territory but this is a mere blip in an otherwise solid set. "Years from now you will be able to say you were at that Pearl show at the Barfly," Ian announces to the crowd. Biased he may be, but given the scale of Pearl's ambition, big things surely beckon.

JAMES HICKIE



Poison The Well:
Clearly no longer
endorsed by Gilette

**Pit
Stop**

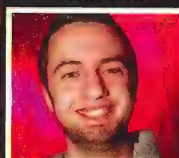
**HOW WAS IT
FOR YOU?**

**ELLIE, 20
SWINDON**



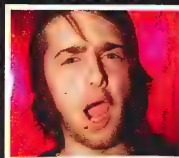
"The band have stayed true to their roots, and as long they do that their fans will stick with them, regardless of who they're signed to."

**MARK, 21
SWINDON**



"This is about the 16th time I've seen them. All the adversity they've suffered has just made them stronger, and they've got a real cult following now."

**SCOTT, 20
SWINDON**



"It's combination of the heaviness with a bit of melody – it just touches me in a good way. They nail both the screaming bits and the melodic bits equally well."

POISON THE WELL

PLUS: THE PLIGHT

BARFLY, BIRMINGHAM
05.04.08

KKKK

WORDS: STEVE BEEBEE PHOTOS: JAMES SHARROCK

**LONG SUFFERING ALT-METAL
STALWARTS SOLDIER ON.**

ONE OF the least palatable words in the language of rock is 'metalcore'. Technically a fusion genre incorporating elements of heavy metal and hardcore, the term also gets thrown out randomly at heavy bands that can't write songs, as if being 'metalcore' makes it okay. Such a criticism has been levelled at Poison The Well – but it's only true to a degree, as there's more nuance and feeling to their music than metalcore usually implies.

For The Plight, though, no such doubts even need

to be raised. From the outset their noise is a good noise, a hostile and serrated assault of hotwired punk. Simple but effective, the Leeds mob just go for broke, slamming in fuzzy riffs, jagged solos and pitbull vocals. Though it's punk, its aggression is suggestive of early Di'Anno-era Iron Maiden – echoes of those desperate but inspirational days of sweaty club metal, and obviously a good sign.

Poison The Well are survivors. Many bands less committed to their cause would have faded after a deal with a major turned sour, but four years on from that the indie-released Versions has turned out to be one of their strongest releases to date. With the commanding, somewhat intimidating presence of Jeffrey Moreira up front, and the stinging guitar work of Ryan Primack, Poison The Well remain a good argument for at least giving this metalcore lark a try. Though most of tonight's small audience understandably go loopy for old standards like opener 12/23/93 and Botchla, it's newer stuff like Letter Thing that stands out most.

Heavy as a cartoon anvil when they need to be, Poison The Well's main strength remains their ability to suddenly throw in moments of stirring melody, as they do so well on The Realist. Moreira strains, reaching for the notes, eyes clenched like he means it. If anything, there should be more of this. For now, though, and given the tumultuous four years they've just survived, it's impressive enough to have Poison The Well back in any form.

Feedback

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CD



DOUBLE VINYL



Against Me!

FLOWER SNIFFIN', KITTY PETTIN', BABY KISSIN', G ROCK



Suits you, sirs...: Against Me!
(from left Andrew, Tom, James
and Warren)

ORPORATE WHORES?

Call them sell-outs.
Call them fakes.

But **Against Me!** don't give a fuck if you think they're punk rock or not. They're doing this *their* way...

IT'S 7PM when the four black-clad members of Against Me! eventually stride into the Berlin photo studio that K! have hired for today's cover shoot.

Despite being jetlagged – it's only the second date of the Florida punks' current European tour – singer/guitarist Tom Gabel, guitarist James Bowman, bassist Andrew Seward and drummer Warren Oakes are all bright-eyed and bursting with energy, laughing and joking as they play up for the camera.

They run through a variety of stupid poses, doing their best impressions of Las Vegas crooners, magicians, catalogue models, extras from *Reservoir Dogs*, before Oakes picks up a pair of tailor's shears and starts gleefully hacking into Gabel's suit. A defiant two fingers to the face of corporate music industry trappings – the very things that disapproving detractors accuse this punk quintet of shamelessly courting.

"Come on, how can you expect us to take any of this seriously?" says Gabel with a smirk. "It's really frustrating that this is the story that the press has built about our band. Sometimes I think it'd be nice if we had no back-story at all because I think it totally overshadows the whole fucking point of Against Me!, which is to *play music*."

FOR GABEL and his band, the music is *everything*, and it's what Against Me! have been about since their inception over a decade ago.

In less than two hours from now the band will take to the stage of Berlin's 1,200-capacity Columbia Halle and unleash a relentless barrage of raucous and socially-aware punk for a solid 45 minutes. There will be no onstage banter or pleasantries exchanged with the sold-out crowd, no plugs for the band's current – and fourth – album, *New Wave*, or advertising of the goodies amassing the merch stand at the back of the venue.

Yet while Against Me!'s no frills approach and steely determination to stay true to who they are have earned them the respect and adoration of their musical peers such as NOFX, Green Day and Anti-Flag – not to mention a host of celebrity fans including Foo Fighters mainman Dave Grohl and blue collar hero Bruce Springsteen – they have also managed to alienate members of the punk rock community which spawned them.

"We get our fair share of hate mail," sighs Gabel. "A lot of it is undirected comments like, 'I hope you die' and 'Your band sucks'. Just general, 'Hey guys! How's it going? I just thought I'd take some time out of my day to be *really* nasty to you!'. But you know what? I have no interest in being 'punk rock'.

I have no interest in claiming that title.

"The second you say you're a 'punk band' someone on a messageboard is gonna say you're not punk enough," he adds. "I have no interest in defending that. If people don't think we're punk, that's totally fine, and if they do, then that's totally fine too. I don't need people to think we're 'punk rock' to validate my identity."

It would be easy to mistake the cool confidence and unswerving self-belief that Gabel and his bandmates exude for snotty arrogance, but Against Me! are wholly unapologetic about not playing by the rules because no-one has cut them any slack; everything they've achieved, they've done by themselves.

THE SEEDS for Against Me! were sewn in 1993 while Gabel, Bowman and former Against Me! bassist Dustin Fridkin were attending high school in Naples, Florida – a place the guitarist describes as "a real redneck town". The trio instantly bonded over a mutual love of music and banded together to stave off the inevitable beatings from their less-than-accepting classmates. Little did they know that only two years later, a car accident would change their lives forever.

"It involved a few people we went to school with," recalls Bowman. "And one of them was this guy who used to be a real dickhead to all of us."

Bowman, who his bandmates admit is not known for his tact, announced during a memorial assembly – in front of the entire school – that perhaps the untimely demise of his own personal Nelson Muntz [Bart's nemesis in *The Simpsons*] was a good thing.

"I said, 'Well, that's one less redneck that I have to worry about kicking my ass every day', and all of his friends were sitting behind me."

"They were upset that their friend had died," says Gabel. "And rightfully so, but unfortunately, they directed their anger and frustration at James and my friends."

After a big fight the following lunchtime, Bowman was taken to see the principal and the police were called.

"The cops came and had to guard the doors to the principal's office," says Bowman. "The school was like, 'We can't necessarily guarantee your safety, so you'll have to leave'. It was pretty intense! They called my mom and she was at work, so they called my sister and she was like, 'Yeah, there're all these trucks full of kids circling our block looking for you'. I was 15 years old and scared shitless!"

The police escorted Bowman home and, later that night, he





Go on, punk, make my day: Against Me! show their true colours



packed all of his belongings into a suitcase and was driven 150 miles north to St Petersburg, Florida, to

live with his older sister and her husband. Fridkin's parents immediately withdrew him to be home schooled, which left Gabel to take the brunt of the fallout.

"I was the only one left so I hated school even more," he remembers. "I ran away from home a couple of times and my mom was like, 'If I let you drop out of high school, will you stop running away from home?'. So I dropped out and enrolled in this home schooling program, which I never completed."

Gabel eventually got his GED [General Equivalency Diploma, the equivalent of a US high school diploma] when he was 19 after enrolling in a youth training scheme specifically for high school drop-outs.

"I got paid to learn how to work on cars," he explains. "I'd fix up cars that were donated and give them to mothers on welfare, and, at night, I studied for my GED."

Despite having his hands full, this time away from the conventional classroom left Gabel with the practise and thinking time to dedicate to honing his music and song-writing skills, which he did while playing bass in a local grindcore band, Common Affliction. When they fell apart in 1997, the 17-year-old started Against Me! as a one man band. He didn't expect anything to come of this solo outing – his only goal was to play an acoustic show by himself.

But between 1997 and 2000 the singer expanded the project to a full-on touring band and Against Me! quickly built-up a cult underground following right across the US. After a series of line-up changes and with a glut of indie releases to their name, the band's current – and final – line-up was completed in 2002 when Seward moved down from Tennessee to join Gabel, Bowman and Oakes shortly after the release of Against Me!'s debut album, *Reinventing Axl Rose*. It wasn't long before the band came to the attention of Fat Wreck Chords, the cult punk label owned by NOFX mainman Fat Mike.

"We played in the Bay Area a couple of times and people who worked at Fat Wreck had come out and seen us play," explains Gabel. "Later, they called me up and asked if we'd like to do one of their singles club 7-inch-of-the-month things. And I was like, 'No, we've just put out our own 7-inch EP. You could put out our album though...'"

"The next day I got another phone call," he says. "It was Fat Mike going, 'Yeah, I'll put out your record'. It was really, really weird. I was a big NOFX fan growing up. Me and James were driving in the van and I had to pull over because I was talking to Fat Mike!"

THE BAND signed to Fat Wreck in 2003 and released their debut for the label, *As The Eternal Cowboy*, in November of that year. While it was quite a ballsy move bagging a record deal from one of his idols – despite the fact that they had no new songs – little did Gabel know that things were only going to get even more surreal for him and his bandmates.

"We got a lot of attention from the major labels after *As The Eternal Cowboy* came out," the singer confesses. "We were courted by every major label you could imagine. We told them we were gonna do the next record [2005's *Searching For A Former Clarity*] on Fat and they were still calling us up!"

Deciding they'd at least see what was on offer, Against Me! opted to milk the situation for everything they could and to film their piss-taking efforts for a documentary DVD – 2004's *We're Never Going Home* – which cemented their reputation within the scene as a 'for real' punk band, who were more than happy to advertise their contempt for the corporate world.

"We met with a bunch of [A&R men] and decided to really take them for a ride," laughs the frontman. "They were mostly guys in their mid and late-30s. They'd dress kinda hip and cool but they were also a little square. We had a lot of fun with the situation! They'd take us out to dinner and we'd drink as much as we could on their account, then

we'd get taken to their offices and we'd take as many free CDs as we could feasibly carry.

"It was actually pretty depressing," he continues. "We felt that we'd pretty much made fun of everybody and figured that, after that, no major label would touch us. But you know what? They all came back again!"

IN DECEMBER 2005 Against Me! inked a deal with Warner Bros offshoot Sire Records, shocking and pissing off the punk community and some long-time fans in the process.

"Sire just seemed like a smart move," says Gabel. "They signed The Smiths, Ramones... They even put out the Bodycount album [self-titled album in 1992] with Cop Killer on it."

Yet, despite the fact that Sire had given Against Me! a bigger platform to broadcast their disdain for the establishment, the move seemed to offend Against Me!'s die-hard punk rock fan-base who were quick to accuse the band of 'selling out'. Inking a contract with a major label and announcing that they'd be working with producer Butch Vig – the man responsible for transforming Nirvana's career and their sound with 1991's *Nevermind* – rubbed the punk purists up the wrong way. And, following *New Wave's* release, a series of Against Me! protests were organised up and down the United States. No, really.

"I think it's unfortunate that success is a dirty word for any band," explains the singer. "I think that any musician who bothers to write something, record it and make it available to people and then says, 'I don't really want people to like this' is lying to themselves."

Indeed, Green Day weren't ousted from the punk rock fraternity because of the mainstream appeal and massive success of 2004's *American Idiot*. Yet, three years on, Against Me! are still having to defend their career decision.

"When our last record came out we knew that we wanted to sign to a major," says Gabel. "There are so many bands on Fat Wreck that are stuck in a cycle. Put out a record, do the Warped Tour, do a club tour put out another record... That just doesn't inspire me as an artist in any way."

Matters came to a head in August of last year in Tallahassee, Florida, when Gabel was arrested for allegedly smashing a fan's head against the counter of a coffee shop.

"We'd played the venue there – Beta Bar – a million times before and, whenever we play there, I always go over to the coffee shop across the street and get a cup of tea," says Gabel. "I didn't drive with the band that day, I travelled up with my wife. I had no idea that there was an Against Me! protest happening at the

coffee shop."

After ordering his tea, Gabel went to the toilet and noticed that the entertainment section of the local newspaper – which featured a spread on Against Me! – had been defaced and was pinned to the wall.

"I took it down and put it in the trash can, but then this fucking kid came up and got in my face," he spits. "He was really fucking aggressive. He'd been drinking and was totally wasted. The long and the short of it is that nothing *actually* happened, but if I wasn't in Against Me!, they wouldn't have called the cops..."

"It's a complicated situation," shrugs Oakes. "A lot of people who play in 'punk rock' bands and listen to punk rock come from a really privileged economic background. And so it's seen as this really noble thing to be in an unsuccessful band and to be able to do tours that lose money rather than 'selling out'."

"But you can only do a tour that loses money, if you have money to lose," he adds. "Unless you're relatively wealthy you can't afford to be in an unsuccessful band. I don't have stock portfolio. I don't have a trust fund. If this band wasn't at least moderately successful then it couldn't ever exist."

"I don't need people to think we're 'punk' to validate my identity"
Tom Gabel





Live and dangerous: let's hope there's no coffee shop nearby...

SIGNING A deal with a major label is hardly a crime that should be punishable by death. And if the punk scene is so disgusted by the band's career choices, then it's no wonder that the members of Against Me! are happy for the scene to go fuck itself.

The true worth of Against Me! and their independent ethos lies in what has happened since the band signed their deal. While one would expect a band's major label debut to be a safe, sanitised shadow of their former releases – to gain maximum exposure and shift record company-friendly units – New Wave is a raw, fiery and razor-sharp 33-minute statement of intent. From the likes of White People For Peace and Americans Abroad, with their lyrical scorn for the current global political situation, to the wholly unapologetic Up The Cuts and Piss And Vinegar, which go straight for the jugulars of the current crop of scenester bands, this is an album that is anything but safe.

**"If I wasn't in
Against Me!,
they wouldn't
have called
the cops..."
Tom Gabel**

"We were under no pressure to chop-out 'anthems for the MTV generation'," admits Gabel. "As cliché as it sounds we wanted to be on that label because all our favourite bands were on that label."

"You can really tell how a label works from looking at the careers of the bands signed to it," he adds. "Have they let their artists have complete creative freedom? Have they stuck by their artists when things haven't been as commercially successful as they'd have liked? The answer to all of those questions is a resounding 'Yes!'"

So we shouldn't expect the Against Me! chart-friendly, guaranteed unit-shifter emo album any time soon, then?

"I think a lot of the themes that are prevalent in emo are really misogynistic and really sexist. And a lot of those 'scenes' are total boys' clubs," says Gabel,

screwing his face up. "I have absolutely no interest in promoting that or being part of that. And, as a writer, I respect criticism and I feel like that I should be able to be critical of bands, and other bands should be able to be critical of my band, and it shouldn't be something that people take personal offence to. That said, a lot of those bands are really fucking bad and it's really frustrating!"

DESPITE THEIR teething troubles, life is really only just beginning for Against Me!. After their current UK run they'll be bringing their incendiary live show back to our shores to open for the Foo Fighters at Wembley Stadium in June. And even though punk zealots may have banished Against Me! from their vernacular, Gabel and his bandmates can still stick it to the man like no one else, remaining utterly fearless when it comes to letting Against Me! be exactly who Against Me! want to be.

"For us," says Gabel, "it's always about playing the next show. Or putting out the next record or writing the next song. As stupid as it sounds, I stand by the statement that you're only as good as the last song you wrote. I don't ever want to be on a downward spiral where fewer people are buying our records or are coming to our shows."

Gabel pauses, eyes widening and the corners of his mouth turning up towards the heavens. "I want it to keep getting bigger and bigger until it explodes and dies."

Stand back, people!

AGAINST ME!'S NEW SINGLE, STOP!, IS OUT NOW. THE BAND ARE CURRENTLY ON TOUR IN THE UK. SEE GIGS FOR DETAILS.

Download These Now!

Here're some Against Me! anthems that your iPod is naked without...

BABY, I'M AN ANARCHIST

A heartfelt folk rock tale of boy meets girl, girl breaks boy's heart by voting Republican, boy petrol bombs girl's 4th of July celebrations. Friendly.
FIND IT: Reinventing Axl Rose, 2002

CLICHÉ GUEVARA

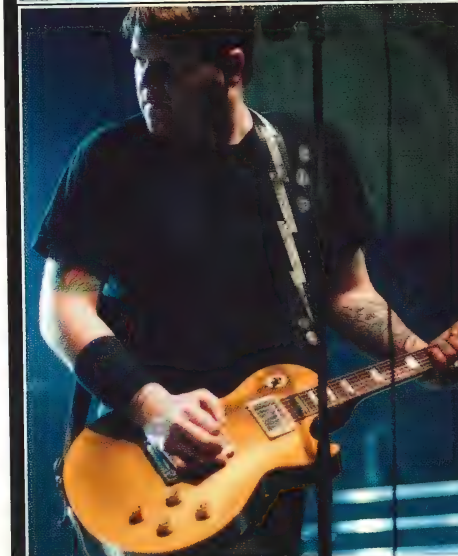
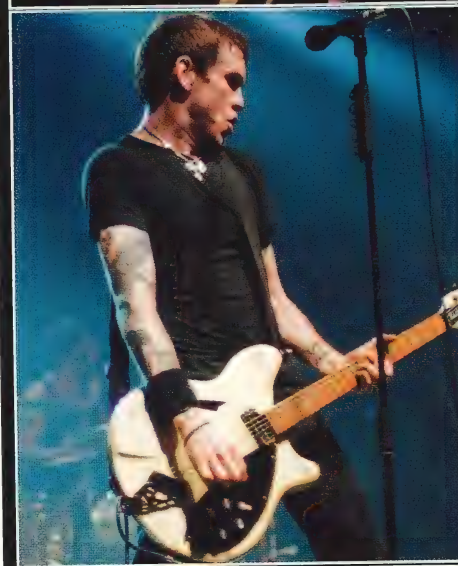
Sounding like a wired amalgamation of Anti-Flag and Elvis Costello, this two-minute blast of folked-up power-pop is about walking it like you talk it.
FIND IT: As The Eternal Cowboy, 2003

DON'T LOSE TOUCH

Still a staple of Against Me!'s live set, this mid-pace slab of disco-meets-punk pokes fun at rock stars of a certain age who still think they're 'hip' and 'cool'.
FIND IT: Searching For A Former Clarity, 2005

PISS AND VINEGAR

Two-and-a-half minutes of rocket-fuelled hate and bile offering out the singers of today's so-called 'alternative' bands for having a distinct lack of testicular fortitude.
FIND IT: New Wave, 2007



RANDOM QUESTION GENERATOR

Pierre Bouvier

SIMPLE PLAN

COULD YOU KILL A MAN WITH YOUR BARE HANDS?

"Morally, no. But physically? Probably. Sadly, I think killing someone is easier than people think."

WHAT'S THE MOST IDIOTIC THING YOU'VE DONE?

"I tend to remove my pants a lot. Thankfully, any photos of me doing that haven't made it onto the internet yet. Whenever I'm at a party and I drink too much, I tend to get naked. That's probably not a very smart thing to do, especially since we're in the public eye a lot."

IN THAT CASE, HOW MUCH WOULD YOU HAVE TO BE PAID TO GO NAKED FOR A MAGAZINE?

"Fully naked? A lot of money. I think it may even be priceless. Are we talking stylish? Could I get the photographer to make me look 'big'? Could I have a semi? If so, then I'd probably do it for a million pounds!"

WHAT'S YOUR FILTHIEST HABIT?

"I pick my nose. Everybody does that, though, don't they? It's denying it that makes it filthy. That and doing it in public without shame."

WHAT'S THE MOST FRIGHTENING THING YOU'VE EVER DONE?

"Sky-diving. I was strapped to an instructor in New Zealand and it was both amazing and absolutely the most terrifying thing I've done. The whole band went, in fact, except for Chuck [Comeau, drums] because he was busy getting laid."

"I TEND TO REMOVE MY PANTS A LOT..."

HOW BAD DO A VENUE'S TOILETS HAVE TO BE BEFORE YOU REFUSE TO USE THEM?

"Sometimes you just don't have a choice. If you've gotta go, you've gotta go. Having lived on the road a lot, my level of tolerance is much higher than most people's. I can take it pretty bad."

WHAT WOULD YOU DO IF THE LADY YOU WERE ENTERTAINING AFTER A GIG TURNED OUT TO BE A MAN?

"I'd want to know more, to be honest. Is it gone? Is he/she post-op or pre-op? I'd be very curious about that, I'm interested in transvestites – in a very, very non-sexual way, I'd like to point out! I'd definitely be intrigued if I found myself entertaining a transvestite. But, and I can't stress this enough, *in a non-sexual way!*"

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VELVET REVOLVER



**“EVERYBODY’S
VERY RELIEVED...”**

EXCLUSIVE! SLASH REVEALS THE TRUTH
BEHIND SCOTT WEILAND’S DEPARTURE AND
WHAT THE FUTURE HOLDS FOR VELVET REVOLVER

WHEN SCOTT Weiland strode up to the microphone and informed a sold-out Glasgow SECC that, "they were watching something special – the last tour by Velvet Revolver," his bandmates, guitarist Slash, bassist Duff McKagan, drummer Matt Sorum and guitarist Dave Kushner, all stood back and stared at each other. To the casual observer this was shock, pure and simple. But, to those privy to the inside workings of the band, this was actually an announcement that made everyone but the singer's lives a good deal easier. Because those four men already knew what Scott didn't – that he was already out of the band.

"He didn't know that we were already planning on extraditing him," says guitarist Slash. "When we started touring the second record, it just felt like we were losing Scott as far as our connection went. During our tour with Alice In Chains [in August 2007], he was just out to lunch. When he came back, he was supposed to go to rehab, so we postponed our Australian tour but he didn't really go to rehab. That was the final blow. We had a lot of commitments, like the tour in the UK, which we didn't want to back out on, so we wanted to finish those before telling him."

Here, Slash reveals the details of Scott's departure, exclusively to Kerrang!...

it too and, when you're dealing with someone who is too high-maintenance to hang out with the guys in the trenches, then there are problems."

DID THAT FEEL LIKE A SNUB TO YOU?

"I didn't take it personally but I don't want to dwell on it too much. There was a point where he had certain requirements – he needed *this* to deal with things, then *that* – and you just get to a point where you think, 'Whatever'. I'd like to have somebody up there who's comfortable enough and secure enough with himself to be the frontman without feeling that he's being threatened by the other guys. Really, though, I don't understand what goes on with these people!"

DO YOU THINK WEILAND WAS THREATENED BY YOUR SHARED HISTORY WITH DUFF AND MATT IN GUNS N' ROSES?

"There was some underlying fucking theme that was going on but I'd be lying if I said I could put my finger exactly on it. I definitely get the feeling there was some sort of resentment going on."

THERE WAS A RUMOUR THAT WEILAND WAS CALLED 'J.A.'

when we started. Now, at least, people know what we're doing. They know we're a rock 'n' roll band and that we're successful enough that you're going to have to be on your game if you're going to hook up with us. I just want to find the right guy so we can write some great songs."

ARE YOU WORKING WITH SINGERS AT THE MOMENT?

"We had thought about working with someone else for the UK tour but there wasn't really enough time to break someone in for that. We're entertaining a couple of different ideas. There has been a lot of interest, so we're working our way through what we like and what we don't like. I'm not going to make any rash decisions. It's nice that people are interested, though. It's 50 per cent fate and 50 per cent hard work and tenacity trying to find the right guy for a band. We've got the hard work and tenacity down but, as far as fate is concerned, we'll just have to see."

"SCOTT DIDN'T KNOW WE WERE PLANNING ON EXTRADITING HIM..."

WAS THE SPLIT WITH WEILAND DIFFICULT?

"No, not really. At this point, everybody's very relieved that we've got past it because, now he's not around, we can concentrate on getting somebody into the fold that we can rely on. He's been talking about rejoining Stone Temple Pilots as well, so we told him, 'Cool, go jam with STP in the summer and we'll work on the album'. We said that [before the split] because we didn't think there'd be anything going on with him after summer anyway..."

THAT MUST HAVE MADE THE RELATIONSHIP COMPLICATED BETWEEN YOU ON YOUR LAST TOUR.

"We basically didn't speak a word that whole time. We gave him the cold shoulder in the UK like nobody's business. There were a couple of arguments around the stage but, other than that, nobody spoke to him. I imagine he was quite uncomfortable. No wonder he didn't have a good time. Then, he told everyone in Glasgow that the whole band was over. We were like, 'Oh well, I guess we've got a surprise coming for you, Scott.'"

SO IT DIDN'T END ON GOOD TERMS, THEN?

"It wasn't malicious. The whole thing was basically just a lot more difficult than we've made it sound for the last few years."

IF YOU WEREN'T SPEAKING, DID THAT MAKE TRAVELLING TOGETHER HARD?

"For the most part, I don't really remember seeing much of him. We flew to Dubai together, I think, when we played there recently. Well, I think I remember him being on the plane, anyway. We sort of got used to him not being around. He's never really been part of the mechanics of the group – he's always been separate and doing his own little thing."

WAS IT IRRITATING THAT THE SINGER IN YOUR BAND WOULDN'T COMMIT TO ACTUALLY BEING IN THE BAND?

"I'm really easy-going and I'll make allowances for whatever people need. But there is the other side of

– JUNIOR AXL – BY THE BAND BEHIND HIS BACK. IS THERE ANY TRUTH IN THAT?

"No, I never called him that. There were a few similarities though. What became really irritating was that I had the same problem with Scott as I had when I toured with Axl. I just couldn't get the guy onstage on time. That, I can't accept. I will not do it again. I will not be in a situation where a guy is making the audience wait for half an hour, or an hour, or more. It's criminal. I don't know who someone thinks he is when tries to get away with that sort of thing."

YOU SPOKE ABOUT WEILAND'S 'ERRATIC BEHAVIOUR' AND HIS 'PERSONAL PROBLEMS' WHEN YOU ANNOUNCED HIS DEPARTURE. WHAT DID YOU MEAN BY THAT?

"Oh man, that's a broad statement, isn't it? When it comes to those things, I don't want to speak badly of him because I don't want that negative energy going back and forth. Basically, we're done. I don't need to air any dirty laundry about him. We had a good run and there are some good songs in there. We had some magic moments but the bad outweighed the good."

DID WEILAND'S PLANS TO REUNITE WITH STONE TEMPLE PILOTS HAVE ANY BEARING ON HIS EXIT?

"It wasn't the STP thing at all. At the end of the day, he wanted the glory of going back to STP anyway. I think he thought we were going to wait around for him until the end of summer but, instead, we thought, 'Just go. We'll see how those guys fare with you.'"

YOU SEEM TO BE CURSED WHEN IT COMES TO SINGERS...

"I know! I figure, at this point, three times charmed, right? We're looking forward to finding a new singer, though, and we're in a much stronger position to do that than



Scott Weiland: "So, er, where do I get my P45 from, then?"



KERRANG!

angels & airwaves

Photo: Ashley Maile





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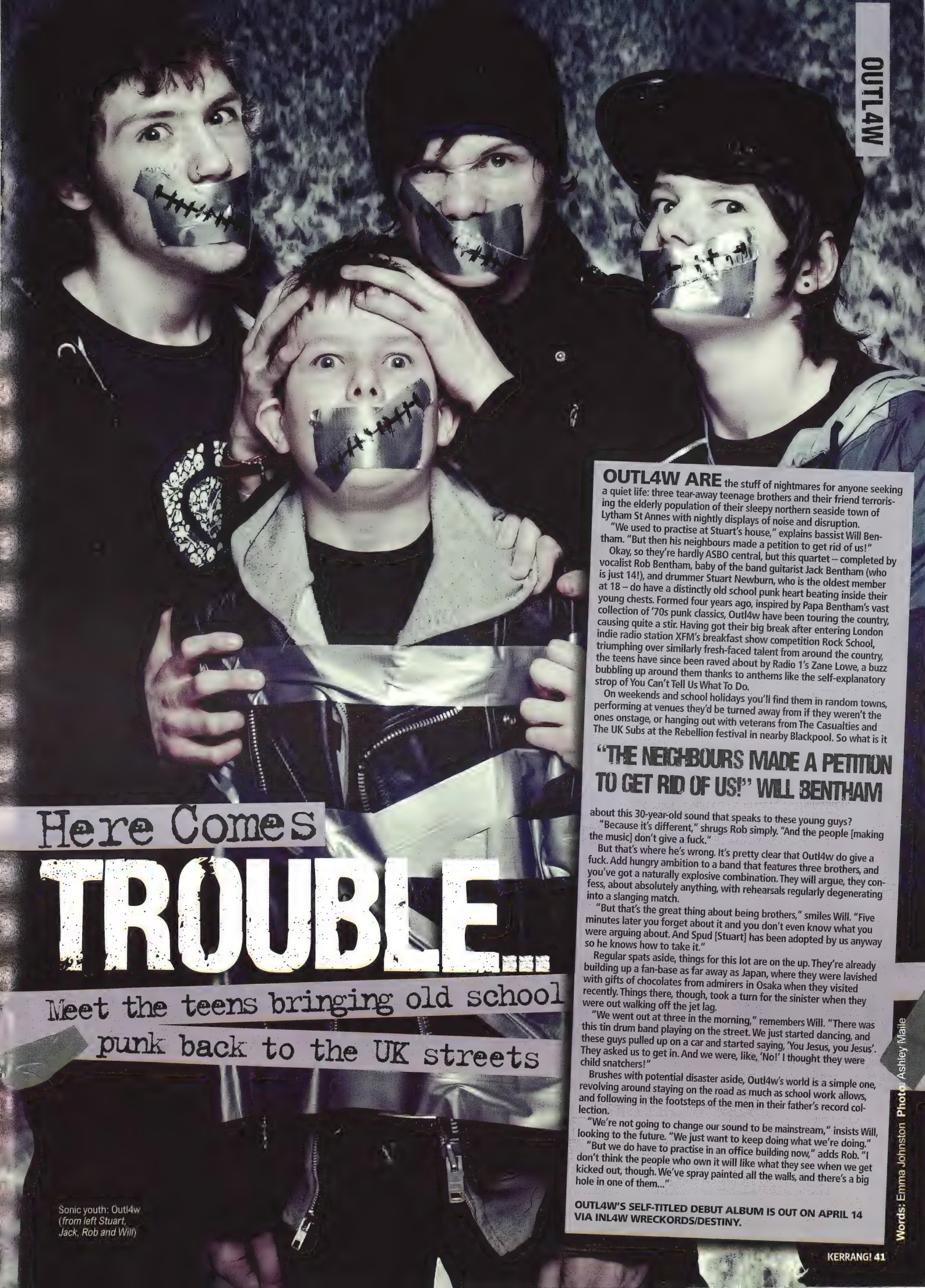


KERRANG!

nightwish

Photo: Ashley Maile





Here Comes

TROUBLE...

Meet the teens bringing old school
punk back to the UK streets

Sonic youth: Out4w
(from left Stuart,
Jack, Rob and Will)

OUTL4W ARE the stuff of nightmares for anyone seeking a quiet life: three tear-away teenage brothers and their friend terrorising the elderly population of their sleepy northern seaside town of Lytham St Annes with nightly displays of noise and disruption.

"We used to practise at Stuart's house," explains bassist Will Bentham. "But then his neighbours made a petition to get rid of us!"

Okay, so they're hardly ASBO central, but this quartet – completed by vocalist Rob Bentham, baby of the band guitarist Jack Bentham (who is just 14!), and drummer Stuart Newburn, who is the oldest member at 18 – do have a distinctly old school punk heart beating inside their young chests. Formed four years ago, inspired by Papa Bentham's vast collection of '70s punk classics, Out4w have been touring the country, causing quite a stir. Having got their big break after entering London indie radio station XFM's breakfast show competition Rock School, triumphing over similarly fresh-faced talent from around the country, the teens have since been raved about by Radio 1's Zane Lowe, a buzz bubbling up around them thanks to anthems like the self-explanatory strop of You Can't Tell Us What To Do.

On weekends and school holidays you'll find them in random towns, performing at venues they'd be turned away from if they weren't the ones onstage, or hanging out with veterans from The Casualties and The UK Subs at the Rebellion festival in nearby Blackpool. So what is it

"THE NEIGHBOURS MADE A PETITION TO GET RID OF US!" WILL BENTHAM

about this 30-year-old sound that speaks to these young guys?

"Because it's different," shrugs Rob simply. "And the people [making the music] don't give a fuck."

But that's where he's wrong. It's pretty clear that Out4w do give a fuck. Add hungry ambition to a band that features three brothers, and you've got a naturally explosive combination. They will argue, they confess, about absolutely anything, with rehearsals regularly degenerating into a slanging match.

"But that's the great thing about being brothers," smiles Will. "Five minutes later you forget about it and you don't even know what you were arguing about. And Spud [Stuart] has been adopted by us anyway so he knows how to take it."

Regular spats aside, things for this lot are on the up. They're already building up a fan-base as far away as Japan, where they were lavished with gifts of chocolates from admirers in Osaka when they visited recently. Things there, though, took a turn for the sinister when they were out walking off the jet lag.

"We went out at three in the morning," remembers Will. "There was this tin drum band playing on the street. We just started dancing, and these guys pulled up on a car and started saying, 'You Jesus, you Jesus'. They asked us to get in. And we were, like, 'No!' I thought they were child snatchers!"

Brushes with potential disaster aside, Out4w's world is a simple one, revolving around staying on the road as much as school work allows, and following in the footsteps of the men in their father's record collection.

"We're not going to change our sound to be mainstream," insists Will, looking to the future. "We just want to keep doing what we're doing."

"But we do have to practise in an office building now," adds Rob. "I don't think the people who own it will like what they see when we get kicked out, though. We've spray painted all the walls, and there's a big hole in one of them..."

OUTL4W'S SELF-TITLED DEBUT ALBUM IS OUT ON APRIL 14 VIA INL4W WRECKORDS/DESTINY.

wiL Francis: "Has anyone got a fiver they can lend me? Anyone?"

All The Small Things

AIDEN aren't rich. They're not chart-topping superstars either. But the Seattle goth-punks feel like the most successful band on the planet...

AT PRECISELY 4:30pm, Aiden frontman wiL Francis steps out of the darkness and onto the street. Looking tired and pale, coffee in hand, he pauses to survey his surroundings for what looks to be the first time today.

Across the street, hundreds of fans are gathered in preparation for the night ahead, their excited squeals piercing the air like daggers. Slowly, carefully, Francis peers around the side of his band's tour bus, eager to catch a glimpse of the hysteria awaiting him – a thin but warm smile spreading across his face.

"You ready for this?" grins a nearby crew member, slamming the tour bus doors shut in a way that suggests the point of no return has just been reached.

"Always," replies Francis, flicking the collar of his coat towards the heavens. "Always."

He shuffles across the street and enters the shadow being cast by Bristol's gloomy-looking Academy. First come the double takes, then the whispers and pointed fingers. Finally, as he steps onto the curb, a mighty roar arises. His smile returning – a little wider, a little warmer still – Francis holds his drink aloft in appreciation before disappearing inside, back into the darkness.

The last time Aiden played a show here in Bristol, they did so at the city's university campus in front of a few hundred people. The time before that, their first ever visit here, they played at this very venue as the opening band of the 2006 Kerrang! Tour. Tonight, however, the quintet will play to almost a thousand people as headliners. Inside, the rest of the band – drummer Jake Davidson, bassist Nick Wiggins and guitarists Jake Wambold and Angel Ibarra – are scattered around the building, preparing for the show ahead.

Nick's key to a long-lasting friendship? Give the finger when your pal ain't looking...

"Did you see how many kids are outside already?" asks an excitable Ibarra. "Not bad for a little punk band from Seattle!"

A punk band from Seattle they may be, but right now Aiden are anything but little. Since the release of their breakthrough second album *Nightmare Anatomy* two-and-a-half years ago, they have become nothing short of a cult phenomenon. In the past two years alone the band have shifted more than 200,000 albums, 36,000 of which have come from the UK market, while tour schedules have seen them grace the main stage at both Download and the Reading and Leeds festivals, playing to upwards of 60,000 people at one time.

"When we first started out five years ago, our dreams didn't go beyond selling out a local club show," explains Wambold. "Even now that feels like a weird concept to me. Looking back at everything we've done and even looking outside of those doors today, I still can't quite believe that we're here doing this."

Today, however, is strange for a very different reason. The third of 12 UK shows in support of last year's *Conviction* album, the tour will see the band play to over 11,000 fans across two weeks. Given that most bands struggle to play to half the amount of people that have actually bought their records, this run will – quite bizarrely – see them play to around 90 per cent of the 13,000 people who bought *Conviction*; 10,000 less than the figure racked up by its predecessor.

Don't you find that a little strange?

"Find what strange?" replies Francis, lighting a cigarette next to one of the venue's rear fire escapes.

That you're playing to almost as many people that actually bought the record.

"I guess it's maybe a little strange," he concedes, exhaling a huge cloud of smoke.

Do you think that, perhaps, more people have this album than the figures suggest?

"I would say that's definitely the case."

And how has that happened?

"Downloading."

Do you view that as fans stealing from you?

"Okay, here's the thing," Francis begins. "If you were walking past a cigarette shop, and you saw the brand that you smoke laying on the ground, completely untouched, would you go inside and buy those same cigarettes or would you take the pack on the ground?"

I'd probably take the pack from outside.

"Exactly. See, when I first started playing music, I never expected to make any money from it. I just wanted to go on tour and play. If I can get paid every now and then, that's awesome, but for me it's never been about that. This band is my soul, my passion. It is absolutely everything to me."

It's a statement that reeks of cliché. One that, given the time of day, almost any band will shove down your throat as quickly as you can swallow it. The difference, however, is that Aiden are a band capable of backing such a claim with little more than a gesture. You only need to look at the filthy red tour bus that Francis first emerged from – one that the band has rented with their own money – to see that he means it. Throw your glance back towards the front doors and you'll see that, just as it does for Francis, Aiden is a band that, most of the fans gathered here, represents a genuine way of life.

The first of tonight's punters arrived this morning before the sun had even risen, while one young lady, who the band know affectionately as Gill, has travelled all the way from Minnesota, USA, in order to catch every single



Magic man: wil casts a spell to get the world to download Aiden's album

"TO KNOW WE'RE HAVING AN EFFECT ON PEOPLE IS AN AMAZING FEELING" WIL FRANCIS

one of the band's shows.

"Aiden saved my life," explains Holly, a student from Bath who by the day's end will have seen the band no less than eight times. "I can't describe how much they mean to me. They've helped me through so much bad stuff that I'll always love them."

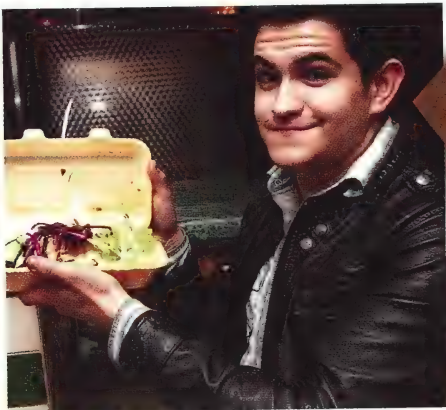
"That's awesome," smiles the frontman on hearing this. "I can totally relate to that. Nirvana saved my life. Their songs are what got me through some of the roughest, darkest times of my life. To know that we're having the same effect on people is an amazing feeling."

"A while back I got a letter from a guy who is in prison," he continues. "He said that if he'd discovered this band earlier on in life, maybe he wouldn't be where he is now. To this day I carry that letter on tour with me. It's sat in my suitcase on the bus right now. Things like that mean more to me than you could ever imagine."

Cynics may scoff at such tales, but within seconds of Aiden taking to the stage, it's clear that this is a band whose bond with their audience is stronger than most. A band whose music really does mean everything to them.

At one point during tonight's show, Francis will encourage fans who don't yet own *Conviction* to go online and download it. Or to find someone who owns it and copy it. To do anything they can to get their hands on it, just so long as they listen. Because maybe, just maybe, this is a band blessed with the power to bring light and hope to those with none. That's something that you can't buy. That you can't download or copy.

"What I'm really proud of is that our fans aren't waiting for that one song," Francis smiles. "They're singing every word to every song, all the way to the end. This music is as much theirs as it is ours. To me, that's priceless."



Angel: he eats kebabs and still loses weight!



Jake D and his bare feet get banished from the dressing room...



MEN AT WORK WIL FRANCIS REVEALS WHEN THE BAND WILL START MAKING A NEW ALBUM...

"We've got some time off over the summer, but after that we'll be getting straight back on the road. We really want to hit Australia and Japan again, and we're already planning on coming back to the UK before the end of the year, so as soon as we're done with that we'll be going back into the studio to do another record. Hopefully, this time next year it'll be out."

Geek unique: Thrice (from left
Riley, Dustin, Teppei and Ed)

Revenge Of The NERDS

Keep your sex, drugs and rock 'n' roll
tomfoolery. **THRICE** just want to geek out
and they're not afraid to admit it

WORDS: DAVID MCCLAUGHLIN PHOTO: NEIL VISEL

JUST UNDER an hour's drive south of Hollywood, lies the City Of Orange, where Thrice call home. Far away from the theatre of Los Angeles' opulence, Orange is a purpose-built refuge of white picket fences and picture perfect suburbia, bathed in shimmering Californian sunlight.

As we pull up at drummer Riley Breckenridge's house it's like something from old TV show *The Wonder Years*; a most unlikely setting for the band's combustible music, particularly their monolithic fifth offering, *The Alchemy Index*, which is a four-disc concept album. But it was here, in his converted garage studio extension that this phase of the band – also featuring singer Dustin Kensrue, bassist Eddie (Riley's shy,

"We're just geeks playing for geeks"

RILEY BRECKENRIDGE

younger brother), and guitarist Teppei Teranishi – came to life. Home here is not just the place where the musical heart of the band beats the hardest but where this quintet feel that they belong. Breckenridge and his bandmates may be celebrating their 10-year anniversary this year, but the unrelenting drain of life on the road is something that hasn't got any easier to deal with.

"This is super nice," Teranishi says, stroking a neck that hasn't seen a razor in a while and looking around. "It feels good to be home after our Canadian tour."

"I was definitely going crazy by the end," he confesses. "I had total cabin fever and was counting down the days until I got back. I missed my wife and kid."

"We would all kill ourselves for the band and it is like a surrogate family now," adds mellow vocalist Kensrue. "But there really is no place like home."

How do you deal with home sickness when you're on tour, then?

"I played *World Of Warcraft* non-stop on our

last one," Eddie offers meekly as the rest of the guys erupt with laughter. "It's like *MySpace* combined with *Dungeons & Dragons*, talking orcs and wizards. I'd play for hours until I'd get this digital sword and become uncontrollably excited."

He stops to take a pause, before adding almost apologetically, "We're a bunch of nerds, really."

Riley, the charismatic elder statesman and court jester of the band, rams the point home, highlighting how an innocent juvenility informs their collective sense of humour.

"We had this running joke about Chad Kroeger," he reveals with a wry grin. "We were haunted by fucking Nickelback posters everywhere so all of us were pretending to be Chad, except we gave him this throaty, Mid-western accent..."

"And for an entire day," Kensrue interrupts, with a full-bodied, hearty laugh, "we talked only through our laptops' computer voices. Can you imagine that? It was like a bus full of Stephen Hawking clones. We didn't utter a single word."

Suddenly the general perception of Thrice being nothing more than a bunch of heads-up-arses, po-faced dullards seems way off the mark. So why do you think you lot get pegged as earnest, emo bores?

"I think we're just shy, really," Kensrue says with a

sigh. "We open up to each other but we're not good at doing it in front of people."

"We're not hams," Teranishi adds. "The press want sensationalism and that's not us. We're just four normal guys who like to play music. It's an indictment of 21st century culture that there aren't that many bands out there who aren't playing the game."

"When the camera rolls, some bands are like, 'Yeah, dude, we just kicked ass onstage and I'm gonna go drink a fifth of Jack. Later we're gonna do blow off a hooker's tits!', but that shit's just not real," reckons Riley. "We're not boring, we're just poor salesmen, but at least we're honest."

Despite their long history together, the band who named their 2001 debut album *Identity Crisis* still have moments when they feel uneasy in their own skin – something that people's misconceptions of the band doesn't help them to overcome.

"We've thought about changing our name on every single record," Teranishi laughs, explaining how the creative expansion on each subsequent album has seen them evolve to the point of almost becoming a new band.

"It sucks being put in a box," the singer admits. "I know there are lots of people who would enjoy our

last few records but would never give them the time of day because of what they think our band is."

"Maybe our next one should have a mind eraser as the opening track?" Riley laughs. "We could hide subliminal messages to brainwash people into giving us a chance. We'll probably just keep pleasing ourselves until we slowly whittle down the fan-base to one person. Then we can just burn them a CD-R!"

And what would that person be like – who is the ultimate Thrice fan?

"14, female, eyeliner..." offers Teranishi with a smirk.

"A lot of our fans are musicians starting their own bands," says Riley. "I guess they see themselves in us because we've never been larger-than-life rock stars. We're just geeks playing for other geeks, really."

And that's nothing to be ashamed of.

3 Things You Should Know About Thrice...

THEY'RE INTO FANTASY METAL

Riley Breckenridge: "I went through a seriously insane Fantasy metal phase, listening to like, *Stratovarius* and *Narnia*. It was so rad! I love how ridiculous they are."

THEY THROW POP PARTIES

Dustin Kensrue: "On tour we gather as many different guys from all the bands and have these crazy dance parties with silly pop music. I liked to spin a little t.A.T.u. That always goes down well and we have a soft spot for stuff like Justin [Timberlake] and Christina [Aguilera]."

THEY HATE PROG-ROCK

Teppei Teranishi: "A lot of people say *The Alchemy Index* is prog, but we all hate Rush and that stuff."

Riley Breckenridge: "I had a *Dream Theater* phase once, but only for the drums and the weird time signatures. I just wish there was a way to mute the vocals!"

THRICE RELEASE *THE ALCHEMY INDEX: VOLS III & IV* ON APRIL 14 VIA VAGRANT.

Albums

KKKKK=CLASSIC KKKKK=EXCELLENT
KKK=GOOD KK=AVERAGE K=POOR



MINDLESS SELF INDULGENCE

IF

(THE END)

KKKKK

WORDS: DANIEL LUKES

ELECTRO PINK PUNKS GOB ALL OVER YOUR FAVOURITE MUSIC.

SMART ALECS that they are, the irony of the mainstream press only starting to give a fuck about them since becoming 'that band with the bassist wot married Gerard' cannot be lost on Mindless Self Indulgence. Fact is, MSI have been doing this shit and not giving a shit for years. This shit being some of the brattiest, snottiest, relentlessly ADD punk rock around: music so supremely, refreshingly idiotic they're pretty much in a genre of one. The NYC quartet may well have been poised to conquer the world with breakthrough album *Frankenstein Girls Will Seem Strangely Sexy* in 2000, but it really doesn't matter they didn't. If it is anything to go by, in 2008 they're just getting started.

From the get-go here frontman Jimmy Urine is all riled up and ready to spit on (or snog) anyone foolish enough to get too close, with his wry, lippy lyrics and falsetto quivers. Never Wanted To Dance spansks Fall Out Boy to tears while stealing their girlfriends, only to realise in Get It Up that he can't, er, get it up, while Bomb This Track, flailing and staggering like Marilyn Manson's demented teenage cousin, wants 'to take a chance, deep in your underpants'. Classy, yes, but the *pièce de résistance* is Mark David Chapman, an ode to John Lennon's killer which reprises the anti-rock star sentiment of one of MSI's more inspired moments (I Hate Jimmy Page) and ends up with the voice of Urine's mum giving him a hard time for wasting his life in the music biz: what could possibly be more punk than that? Musically, MSI are on fantastic form, throwing into their mad lab everything from stomping gangsta rap to thumping industrial metal to those humungous '80s choruses and syrupy keyboards of which they seem so inexplicably enamoured, and making it all come out spattered with grisly, luminous, dazzlingly infectious pink. And if they sometimes sound like a seriously fucked-up relation of maligned '90s nu-goths Orgy – fine: at their best Orgy weren't actually half bad.

Most importantly, even if and perhaps especially if you hate MSI with a vengeance, it's virtually impossible you won't find something here to enjoy and bang your stupidly-grinning head to, even if it's through gritted teeth. If you can't, then maybe you're just too old.

DOWNLOAD: Never Wanted To Dance, Bomb This Track.

FOR FANS OF: Faith No More, Marilyn Manson.

Back track

3 KILLER SONGS FROM
MSI'S CATALOGUE

BITCHES (*Frankenstein Girls Will Seem Strangely Sexy*, 2000)

FAGGOT (*Frankenstein Girls Will Seem Strangely Sexy*, 2000)

SHUT ME UP (*You'll Rebel To Anything*, 2005)



THE INSIDER



JIMMY URINE
VOCALS



TALES FROM THE STUDIO...

WITH THE DYNAMIC INCREASE IN YOUR FAN-BASE, WAS THERE ANY ADDED PRESSURE ON THIS ALBUM?

Jimmy Urine (Vocals): "No, not at all. We just like to write songs and lose our minds and we've never been a band that cares about if our music gets on the radio or not. Let me put it this way, we're not sitting there worrying about writing 'Hey There, Delilah'. We're still saying 'fuck' and 'shit' the way we always have."

DOES THIS RECORD STAND UP WELL AGAINST YOUR OLD MATERIAL?

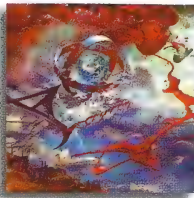
Jimmy: "I think so. We've made a record that's been 30 songs that are a minute long, and we've got a record that's had success to some

degree but each record has its own identity and this one has things that stand-out more than on the other records. If it makes me a million dollars or two dollars, I don't care, it's just a good MötÖ record."

YOU'RE WELL KNOWN FOR HAVING HIDDEN MESSAGES ON YOUR RECORD. IS THERE ANYTHING HIDDEN ON THIS RECORD?

Jimmy: "Yeah, there's hidden stuff on the record and on some of the packaging but you're going to have to find it. That's the fun part. The only thing I'll tell you is that my mother's on the record swearing at me in Spanish. Other than that, you're on your own."

ANSUR WARRING FACTIONS (CANDLELIGHT) KKKK



SERIOUSLY EPIC AND ECLECTIC NORWEGIAN PROGRESSIVE METAL.

KICKING PROGRESSIVE metal in the arse, Ansur drench their abrasive noise in strong jazz inflections, off-kilter melodies, and a varied arsenal of tones and sounds which results in them sounding a little like Cave In gone slightly batshit on a hefty recording budget. This really is a prog nirvana which sees them incorporate layered keyboards, breathily seductive saxophone, bits of hillbilly-sounding country, and rhythmic variations culled from pretty much every nation on earth. The songs all last about a week but never get boring, and the ever-evolving moods make this an impressive work that is in fact very hard to pigeonhole, which is always a welcome thing.

DOWNLOAD: The Tunguska Incident.

FOR FANS OF: Between The Buried And Me, Candiria.

DAN SLESSOR

ARSIS WE ARE THE NIGHTMARE (NUCLEAR BLAST) KKK



EAST COAST METALLERS UNLEASH A TORRENT OF MELODIC DEATH.

WITH DEATH metal sagging under the weight of one too many hardcore-induced beatdowns, Arsis are happy to head in the opposite direction to the messageboard-orientated end of the scene. We Are The Nightmare is brimming with classic metal soloing, eschewing Azagthoth-style dissonance in favour of heroic fretworkery you'd expect from Bodom or DragonForce. Consequently, where the genre usually aims for murk and swampiness, Arsis positively glisten. With the sort of crossover appeal that's opened Arch Enemy up to purist scorn, we can only conclude that the biscuit tin drum sound was included to endear Arsis to the underground.

DOWNLOAD: Sightless Wisdom.

FOR FANS OF: Arch Enemy, At The Gates.

OLLY THOMAS

THE BATTALION STRONGHOLD OF MEN (KARISMA) KKKK



NORWEGIAN RETRO-THRASHERS STILL KILL THE OLD WAY.

FEATURING A number of Norwegian underground metal luminaries (members of Taake and Satan among others), The Battalion list their influences as old Slayer, old Sodom, old Destruction, old Pestilence, etc. Clearly these guys like things old, but that's no bad thing as their resolutely old school thrash hacks and flails like Cohen The Barbarian on a particularly bad bunion day. Their obsession with manliness (Stronghold Of Men, The Spirit Of Masculinity) might smack of accidental homoeroticism but comedy machismo aside; this marks a debut of superbly honed aggression.

DOWNLOAD: Born In A Grave.

FOR FANS OF: Kreator, Sodom.

PAUL TRAVERS

THE BUSINESS MEAN GIRL (BAD DOG) K



COMEBACK EP FROM OII! STALWARTS REINFORCES OLD STEREOTYPES.

OII! WAS always kind of the embarrassing cousin of punk rock. Appealing to the more unsophisticated fringes of the scene, Oii! bands often acted as a boozy terrace soundtrack for the violence of postcard punks and skinhead clones. As Oii! pioneers through the years it's difficult to argue a case for the defence of The Business, especially on this half-cocked evidence. Comprising a paltry return of only three, tired-sounding new tracks and four hissy recordings from a show in the Marquee in 1982, there's nothing special here. Clinging to empty sloganeering about 'smashing up the discos', The Business seem little more than a quaint artefact from simpler times.

DOWNLOAD: Till The End.

FOR FANS OF: Cockney Rejects, The Casualties.

DAVID MCLAUGHLIN

COACH CALHOUN ODE TO MYSPACE (BAD LAND FURY) KKK



PETERBOROUGH HARDCORE CREW TAKE THE PISS.

IN A scene so concerned with keeping it real, the injection of big-haired, tight-trousered fashion into hardcore has been generally reviled by the old school. Coach Calhoun's reaction is to dedicate their entire debut mini-album to mocking scene kids. Despite hailing from Peterborough, their musical stamping ground is USHC, specifically its '80s heyday, and they ply their trade with energy and conviction. The lyrical focus falls short of the laughfest it could have been, but the sheer hatred directed towards such a soft target is amusing in itself. And do they have a MySpace page? 'Course they fuckin' do!

DOWNLOAD: Seen To Be Scene.

FOR FANS OF: 25 Ta Life, Slapshot.

OLLY THOMAS

COMMANDER THE ENEMIES WE CREATE (BAD LAND) KKK



THUMPING MELODIC DEATH ATTACK FROM THE LAND OF THE VOLKSWAGEN.

THIS GERMAN mob deal in chunky as fuck death metal interwoven with compelling melodic flourishes. There is nothing in the way of wheel-reinvention going on here, but bolstered by hefty production, they deliver a precision attack that should get hair windmilling and necks spasming across the lands. Throwing in a little variety in the form of occasional acoustic, folk-tinged moments helps to evoke a similar expansiveness as that utilised so well by Chaos AD-era Sepultura, and serves to make the wallopping bits that much more wallopping. The overall sense of familiarity might make The Enemies We Create inessential, but it's a decent racket nonetheless.

DOWNLOAD: Trust In Man.

FOR FANS OF: The Black Dahlia Murder, Shadows Fall.

DAN SLESSOR

Albums



ANTI-FLAG THE BRIGHT LIGHTS OF AMERICA

(HASSLE)
KKKK

UNDERWHELMING 8TH ALBUM FROM US ANARCHO-PUNKS.

A BAND powered by such robust conviction as Anti-Flag – they're vehemently pro-human and animal rights, sporting affiliations to worthy causes like their less palatable peers pick up corporate endorsements – can withstand most criticism, except perhaps this: The Bright Lights Of America sounds, at times, like they've gone pop.

It's more a puzzling record than a bad one, for anyone familiar with their spiky live show and previous albums. 2006's *For Blood And Empire* was their first for a major label, but it packed more surprises than this. What should be a rallying cry against social and political injustices just sounds bland this time around, with nearly every song smoothed out to the point where it loses its edge. Anti-Flag have always been more confrontational than this, even when frontman Justin Sane is boiling his world view down to the occasional bare bones ballad. Here it sounds like they've tried to sugar the pill and the medication's been numbed in the dose.

Vices is tail-ended by a sound clip condemning the US prison system that shows they haven't included anything as smart and biting as *Prison Song* by System Of A Down, *Go West* is so over-obvious in parts that it could be covered by +44, and the first two tracks sound like they're stuck in radio playlist purgatory. If this album's a grower, it's a long-term investment.

DOWNLOAD: The Smartest Bomb, The Ink And The Quill.

FOR FANS OF: Rancid, Rise Against.

ALISTAIR LAWRENCE

Back track

3 KILLER SONGS FROM ANTI-FLAG'S
CATALOGUE

YOU'VE GOT TO DIE FOR THE GOVERNMENT (Die For The Government, 1996)

BRING OUT YOUR DEAD (Underground Network, 2001)

THIS IS THE END (For You My Friend) (For Blood And Empire, 2006)

CRASH ROMEO GAVE ME THE CLAP

(TRUSTKILL)
KK



RADIO-FRIENDLY WARPED TOUR PUNKS FAIL TO IMPRESS.

FOR CRASH Romeo, it's always summertime. More specifically, it's always a summer about eight years back when Blink 182, New Found Glory and the Drive-Thru roster ruled the airwaves. On *Gave Me The Clap*, they provide a hit of unabashed pop-punk with just enough emo *du jour* to pull in the Fueled By Ramen set. Unfortunately, the occasional catchy hook isn't enough to hide the essential vapidity at the heart of this stuff. Lacking the essential spark necessary to alienate bands of this ilk above the mundane, Crash Romeo trundle into blandness. In short: all filler, no killer.

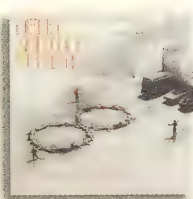
DOWNLOAD: Maybe Lane.

FOR FANS OF: New Found Glory, The Ataris.

OLLY THOMAS

dEUS VANTAGE POINT

(V2)
KK



GOOSE MAD EURO TYPES CONTINUE THEIR JOURNEY INTO THE LEFT FIELD.

GIVEN THAT these Belgian meddlers in the weird and occasionally wonderful have always been bloody hard work, the prospect of an album that is 'their boldest to date' is enough to have you reaching for the steroids you'll require to run away fast enough. In fact, it's not that bad. This is a jaunty, eclectic album that avoids such simple pleasures as rocking out. It is of course wildly annoying and only occasionally foot-tapping in a quirky and off-kilter manner, like a version of Nick Cave's *Bad Seeds* with the tastier seeds removed. Their loyal fan-base excepted, dEUS will remain a total mystery to all and sundry.

DOWNLOAD: The Architect.

FOR FANS OF: Nick Cave, Frank Zappa.

STEVE BEEBEE

DISTORTED VOICES FROM WITHIN

(CANDLELIGHT)
KK



FEMALE-FRONTED MELODIC METAL MEANDERINGS.

SOUNDING KIND of like a collision between a more-restrained In Flames fronted by Cristina Scabbia, Distorted deliver only their second album in a 12-year career. And you can't help but wonder what exactly they've been doing in that time, because this is fairly run-of-the-mill stuff. There are some decent guitar leads that add some extra bite when they're deployed, and the fact that the record features guest appearances from members of Aborted, Therion, and Hatesphere suggests that they have the respect of their peers. But, there's a real blandness at the record's core that despite the best efforts of all involved just cannot be overcome.

DOWNLOAD: Voices From Within.

FOR FANS OF: Lacuna Coil, In Flames.

DAN SLESSOR

HELHEIM KAOSKULT

(DARK ESSENCE)
KKKK



VIKING METALLERS ARE GIVEN A MORE CINEMATIC MAKEOVER.

FORMING SHORTLY after Enslaved, Norwegians Helheim were amongst the very first wave of bands to mix searing black metal with Viking themes. Now on their sixth album they still hold to that same starting point although *Kaoskult* is slower, darker and far more epic than anything they've done before. The lyrics are mostly back to Norwegian but as vocalists V'gandr and H'grimmir largely sound like they're hawking up badgers, the distinction is largely moot anyway. The music, though, is stately and grandiose, still possessed of a blackfire bite but now with a more progressive and measured gait.

DOWNLOAD: Northern Forces.

FOR FANS OF: Moonsorrow, Wolves In The Throne Room.

PAUL TRAVERS

I KILLED PHARAOH KING-HELL BREAKTHROUGH

(LOCKJAW)
KK



FORGETTABLE ALT-ROCK DEBUT FROM CONFUSED NORTHAMPTON LOT.

PUTTING THEIR misleading image (matching waistcoats and canes anyone?) aside, Northampton quartet I Killed Pharaoh should still have the ingredients to do better than this. Despite a professed love of party bands like Rocket From The Crypt and The Wildhearts, this shows none of that influence and makes for a pretty dour half hour. There's some guile and invention on *Save The Man*, but the profusion of personality-free, alt-rock by numbers is patience-testing. Singer Ven Wellington does a passable Jonah Matranga (Far) impression but he is too often let down by pedestrian backing given an ill-fitting theatrical dressing to paper over the cracks.

DOWNLOAD: Save The Man.

FOR FANS OF: Far, Faith No More.

DAVID MCLAUGHLIN

MOONSORROW TULIMYRSKY

(SPINEFARM)
KKKK



MORE EPIC HEATHEN METAL DISGUISED AS A LOWLY EP.

THERE AREN'T many bands who could put out 70 minutes of music and legitimately label it an EP but Moonsorrow are used to operating on a different scale. Their last album proper contained just two songs weighing in at half an hour apiece and the *Tulimyrsky* EP continues in that vein with the multi-faceted title-track blending cinematic atmospherics with long folk-tinged passages and sporadic furnace-blasts of blackened metallic bite. The other tracks are covers (Metallica's *For Whom The Bell Tolls* and *Back To North* by Merciless) and reworked early demo tracks, but stopgaps really don't get more epic than this.

DOWNLOAD: Tulimyrsky.

FOR FANS OF: Finntroll, Enslaved.

PAUL TRAVERS



OMAR RODRIGUEZ-LOPEZ QUINTET THE APOCALYPSE INSIDE THE MIND OF AN ORANGE

(RODRIGUEZ-LOPEZ PRODUCTIONS)

KKK

MARS VOLTA MAN MAKES THE KIND OF RACKET THAT WILL LIKELY KILL THE GOLDFISH.

IF THERE'S one thing of which you can be absolutely certain, it's this: The Apocalypse Inside Of An Orange is not the kind of album you're likely to find in your local record shop's 'easy listening' section. Try instead the 'Jesus Christ, has anybody got any aspirin?' section, or possibly look among the CDs labelled 'if they don't stop with those bloody saxophones I swear I'm going to do someone a mischief'.

The Omar Rodriguez-Lopez Quintet make music that might loosely be described as 'free jazz' – and no wonder it's free. The truth is of course that this is a band made up of wildly talented and supremely individualistic musicians who are capable of communicating with one another on an almost telepathic level. What this also means is that the players clearly know what they're doing. Trouble is, the listener may not. So without any easy point of reference ORLQ make the kind of racket that is actually rather alienating and unsettling, a reaction its creators might actually find quite satisfying. In many ways this music makes a band such as Slayer sound ordinary and routine – safe, even. If you're unfamiliar with its terrain, it would probably take a 100 listens before The Apocalypse Inside Of An Orange began to make any kind of sense. And

only then would you be able to decide whether or not it was to your liking.
DOWNLOAD: Knee Deep In The Loving Hush Of Heresy.

FOR FANS OF: Frank Zappa, The Mars Volta.
IAN WINWOOD

Back track

3 KILLER SONGS FROM OMAR RODRIGUEZ'S CATALOGUE

ONE ARMED SCISSOR (At The Drive-In, Relationship Of Command, 2000)
INVALID LITTER DEPT (At The Drive-In, Relationship Of Command, 2000)
L'VIA L'VIAQUEZ (The Mars Volta, Frances The Mute, 2005)

PLANET OF ZEUS ELEVEN THE HARD WAY

(CASKET MUSIC)
KKK



GROOVY STONER TRIO PUTTING GREEK METAL ON THE MAP. NO, SERIOUSLY.

WAH-WAH WHAT the hell is this? Stoner rock from Greece? Hailing from the unlikely metallic breeding grounds of Athens, this thrusting, snarling trio have all the menace and power of a haulage vehicle rolling downhill with no breaks. Ignoring the awful US twang singer Babis adopts between impressive bouts of growling, Eleven The Hard Way could go shot for shot with anything else of its ilk from the last few years. When the trio briefly take their feet off the pedal and hands off the whammy bar, they can do subtle too, as on the seductive Alice In Chains-like Stab Me. It may be non-stop brawn and balls but who needs a brain, when your face is melting?

DOWNLOAD: Supernothing.
FOR FANS OF: Clutch, Down.

DAVID MCLAUGHLIN

RAZORWIRE WRAPPED IN LIES

(PSYCHOPHONIC)
KKKK



POSSIBLY THE BEST RAP-METAL ALBUM EVER TO EMERGE FROM STROKE.

YOU MIGHT think Razorwire have missed the boat with their rap-tinted punk/metal hybrid. After all, it's not as if Rage Against The Machine have come back from the dead to revitalise that sort of stuff. Wait. What? Okay, so they might have timed their third album just right though ironically they sound less like Rage than ever before, having ditched their old vocalist whose uncanny Zack yelp made them almost a tribute band. Now they share a dynamic, bombastic jump-off point but sound more like themselves with a proudly tumescent set of politically-charged scatterbombs at their fingertips.

DOWNLOAD: Tomorrow Ends Today.
FOR FANS OF: Rage Against The Machine, Rise Against.

PAUL TRAVERS

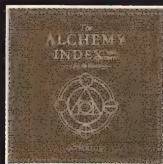
Most wanted GREAT ALBUMS YOU MAY HAVE MISSED



IN FLAMES
A SENSE OF
PURPOSE
KKKK



**CHILDREN OF
BODOM**
BLOODWORK
KKKK

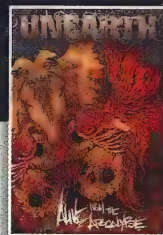


THRICE
THE ALCHEMY
INDEX VOLS III
& IV
KKKK



ELLIOT MINOR
ELLIOT MINOR
KKK

DVD



UNEARTH
ALIVE FROM THE APOCALYPSE
(METAL BLADE)
KKKK

ALL KILLER AND NO FILLER FROM US METALCORE MOB.

WHILE THERE are still plenty of cheap cash-ins out there, there has been a definite increase in the quality of band DVDs of recent, and Alive From The Apocalypse can definitely be added to that list. Comprised of two jam-packed discs, the first one includes a full set filmed in California last year and captures the band at their best, tearing through 11 chunks of

full-force metalcore. Disc two will have fans really slaving, though, for it includes all their videos, more live performance, and a 75-minute documentary chronicling the band's rise, including testimonials from a couple dozen metal and hardcore luminaries.

EXTRAS: Documentary, extra live footage, photo gallery.

DAN SLESSOR

Albums

IN SESSION **LIVE! ONLINE! NOW!**



THE ANSWER LIVE AT SXSW

AS USUAL, this year's SXSW in Austin, Texas was a barnstorming affair with countless bands rocking the shit out of everyone lucky enough to blag their way in, which is where Downpatrick boys The Answer deliver the goods. Sounding like they were plucked from the Mississippi Delta even more than usual, they rip into the compulsive grooves of Under The Sky, Be What You Want, Come Follow Me, new ballad Comfort Zone and Preachin' with a compulsive energy. By the end of the latter, vocalist Cormac Neeson can be found weaving his way between the (mostly bemused looking) crowd members, and preaching the rawk as if his very life depended on it. Nice.

FIND IT: www.crackle.com/sxsw_2008

MY FAVOURITE NEW ALBUM



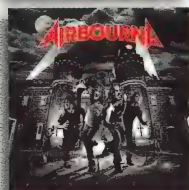
PEPPER KEENAN, DOWN HIGH ON FIRE DEATH IS THIS COMMUNION

"I've always been a big fan of (HOF guitarist) Matt Pike. Everything he does is never anything other than awesome, and this is no exception. The riffs are killer, and I think it shows just how underrated a musician he is."



NICK RUSKELL, K! REVIEWS EDITOR CANCER BATS HAIL DESTROYER

"Truckloads of big riffs and pure heartfelt aggression, Hail Destroyer is a huge clip around the ear from this shouty hardcore lot."



LEANE, K! READER AIRBOURNE RUNNIN' WILD

"My favourite new album is Runnin' Wild by Airbourne. It's just a great album and reminds me of AC/DC."

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CANCER BATS Hail Destroyer
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APRIL 28

DECIDE Till Death Do Us Part

MAY 12

IMMAGE Come Morning We Fight

MAY 26

16 CRAZYFISTS The Tide And Its Takers
JHSAIN Angl

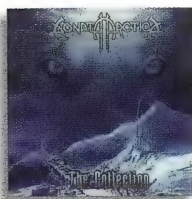
JUNE 2

DISTURBED Indestructible
OPETH Watershed (pictured)

SONATA ARCTICA THE COLLECTION

(SPINEFARM)

KKKK



FINNISH POWER METALLERS TAKE A LOOK INTO THEIR PAST

QUITE HOW truly power metal Sonata Arctica are when placed next to heavyweight chaps like Manowar and Exciter is down to debate (or duel), but their high-pitched, widdly, speedy chops still set the metal-o-meter off something chronic.

Packed with the Finns' best moments, The Collection is the perfect starter guide, loaded with quality metal tracks like Fullmoon that'll have you trying vainly to sing along to Tony Kakko's tremendously high voice while air-keyboarding like a champ. Which is ludicrous behaviour, obviously, but sometimes metal is best when sensible pretension goes out the window and you embrace your inner gummy.

DOWNLOAD: Fullmoon.

FOR FANS OF: DragonForce, Nightwish.

NICK RUSKELL

DONITA SPARKS AND THE STELLAR MOMENTS

(SPARKSFLY)

KKK



1990S ALT-ROCK ICON RETURNS WITH OCCASIONALLY GREAT RESULTS.

CHIEFLY KNOWN in the UK for two notorious incidents – hurling a tampon at the mud-flinging Reading crowd in 1992 and removing her trousers during a performance on The Word – the former L7 frontwoman has always been one to court controversy. But such episodes have often overshadowed her music, which is a shame because, as evidenced on Transmutate, she still possesses an abundant if inconsistent talent. Here she proves that simple is often beautiful when it comes to riffs, hers a mix of grunge stomp, new wave cool and occasionally even dance-inspired beats. Better, for L7 fans, there's enough here to recall the best of the past too.

DOWNLOAD: Dare Dare, Infancy Of Disaster.

FOR FANS OF: L7, The Donnas.

TOM BRYANT

TAKING CHASE HAVE A GOOD TIME ALL THE TIME

(WASTED STATE)

KK



SCOTTISH INDIE-PUNK TYPES FALL THE WRONG SIDE OF DULL.

SOME BANDS just sound destined to fill support slots forever. "We are all part of a scene that is split into too many sub-genres, which is an uncomfortable and uneasy way to live," they declare and they're right. This is indeed a bit punk-ish, a bit indie-ish, a bit pop-ish, falling between anonymous stools when it should be leaping atop them and declaring its own identity.

A blazing solo in The Writer's Block suggests they might have a fire somewhere within but it all soon subsides again to a forgettable moping morass.

DOWNLOAD: Columbo Likes The Nightlife.

FOR FANS OF: Biffy Clyro, Cursive.

PAUL TRAVERS

VARIOUS BEAUTIFUL VOICES VOL 3

(NUCLEAR BLAST)

KKKK



ABSORBING CD AND DVD SET OF FEMALE-FRONTED METAL.

WHERE DID the time go? With 19 audio tracks and 19 videos, if you've any love of Nightwish-style bands you're going to be wallowing in this showcase of talent for hours. The big players are here – Nightwish, After Forever, Lacuna Coil and Epica – and there are great entries from second tier bands like Sirenia, Xandria and Sinergy too. Firewind's duet (on the DVD) with Tara Teresa is breathtaking, and away from the mainstream, The Agonist knuckle down very hard – a ferocious mix of hardcore and melody. It's proof that there's masses of great music out there if you look for it, and that Paramore belong in a nursery.

DOWNLOAD: Sinergy's The Sin Trade.

FOR FANS OF: Within Temptation, Evanescence.

STEVE BEEBEE

WHITESNAKE GOOD TO BE BAD

(SPV)

KKKK



THE 'SNAKE BITES HARD AGAIN ON LEGENDS' WONDERFUL COMEBACK ALBUM.

IN THEIR day, one of the greatest hard rock legends ever to have stomped their way around the world, Whitesnake's return has been perhaps the most enjoyable of the many 21st century rebirths. Recording a new studio album, their first album proper in almost 20 years, might have seemed a bridge too far – but nothing could be further from the truth. After a slow start, this thing breathes fire all the way. Adding the spirit of their blues-inspired origins to the hormonal pyrotechnics of their commercial peak, songs like Call On Me and Lay Down Your Love offer a sexy middle ground that should appeal to all former fans.

DOWNLOAD: Lay Down Your Love.

FOR FANS OF: Led Zeppelin, The Answer.

STEVE BEEBEE

XERION NOCTURNAL MISANTROPIA

(SCHWARZDÖRN)

KKK



CELTY-FOLKY-BLACKY-METALLY TYPE DARK STUFF.

KICKING THINGS off with a folky melody played on a Celtic whistle doesn't exactly suggest impending metal fury, but once the blackened blitz starts, Xerion are quick to ensure that any doubts to their malicious intent are swiftly dispelled. When they get nasty, they get nasty, but the folk-inflections remain throughout – with the exception of Ate A Morte, which is comprised entirely of dissonant bells clanging, which is closer in sound to a knackered grandfather clock than actual music. At their best, though, as on the epic Na Traxa Esoterica Do Ar Invisible, they get the mix just right, coming at you with equal parts spite-driven power, melody and eerie folk and hitting home hard.

DOWNLOAD: Na Traxa Esoterica Do Ar Invisible.

FOR FANS OF: Primordial, Limbionc Art.

DAN SLESSOR

Playlist: 10 Songs You Should Hear Now!

CHECK OUT ALL THESE SONGS AT WWW.KERRANG.COM



1 KILL HANNAH KENNEDY Kill Hannah may well have found the perfect formula for amalgamating guitar-pop grooves and new wave suss. Kennedy is a humdinger that'll have you smiling from ear-to-ear.

2 THE SUBWAYS GIRLS & BOYS The Subways, purveyors of the finest in raucous rock tunes, are back and Girls & Boys will get you hurling yourself around like a twat. Promise.

3 CANCER BATS HAR DESTROYER Yes, hail the destroyer in all his smashing, crashing, nasty glory! Sounding more pissed off and utterly awesome than ever, Cancer Bats kill on this one.

4 IMPERIAL LEISURE MAN ON THE STREET Parping brass, scratchy riffs, gang vocals, a chorus the size of Surrey are all thrown together here - with the kitchen sink - in this mighty ska anthem.

5 NOFX HALF-FX Want to hear snippets of dozens of NOFX songs played live in quick succession? Here you go. The fastest, daftest band in the world.

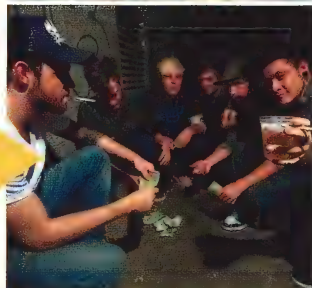
6 THE GUTTER TWINS THE STATIONS If you're looking for some whiskey-soaked, wrong side of the tracks, darkly brooding melancholy then look no further. If you're looking for cheery pop, run!

7 THE GATES OF SLUMBER TRAPPED IN THE WEB One thing you won't be doing is slumbering while this six-legged unashamedly metal beast charges up and down your spine in the throes of hair flailing ecstasy!

8 THE PARLOR MOB EVERYTHING YOU'RE BREATHING FOR If languid Southern grooves are your thing then, oh boy, are you gonna be one excited mothertrucker when you wrap your ears around this puppy!

9 SECRET LIVES! OF THE FREEMASONS LIVE BEGINS AT 400Z Oh yes indeed, this slice of sunshine soaked pop is an ode to none other than that most glorious of amber liquids - BEER! Big, brainless, good time fun.

10 HAWTHORNE HEIGHTS COME BACK HOME NEW Following the death of guitarist Casey Calvert, it's great to see HH back in the saddle. Especially when the output is as strong as this honey-sweet slice of emo pop.



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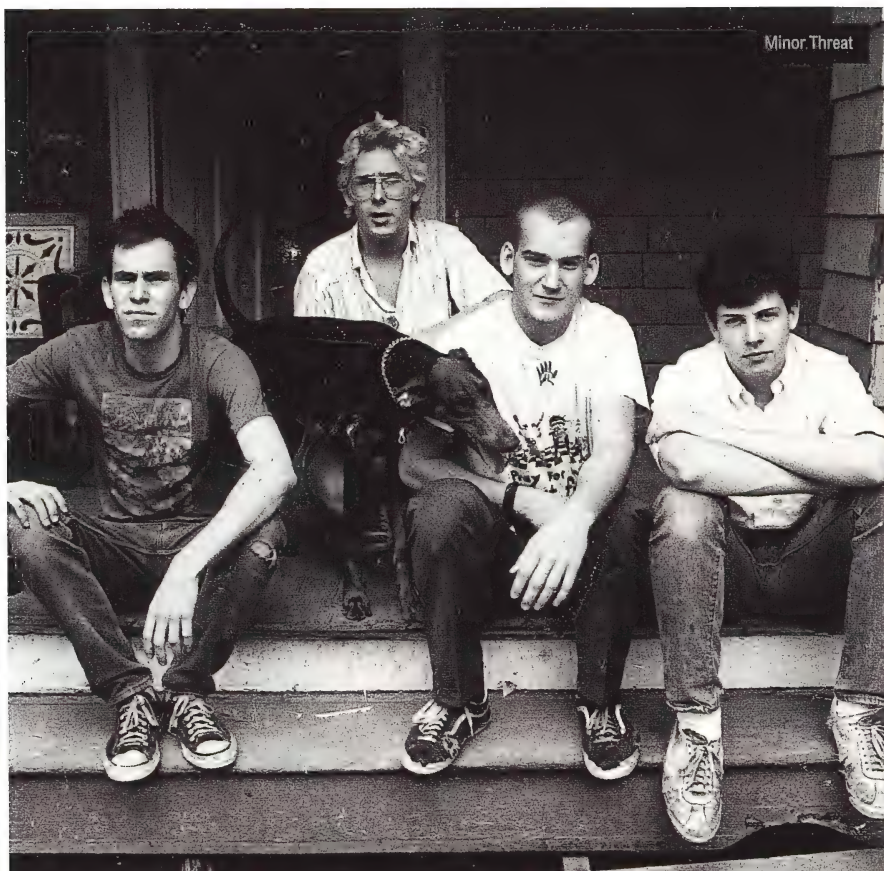
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21/04/08

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A brief history of... dc hardcore

YOUR ULTIMATE 5 STEP GENRE GUIDE.



1. KNOW THIS: THE KEY FACTS.

IT SOUNDS LIKE: Short, sharp and to the point, like a knobby stick jabbed in the solar plexus.

KEY BANDS: Bad Brains, The Teen Idles, Minor Threat, Scream, Embrace, Rites Of Spring.

THE LOOK: Shaven-headed with expressions as serious as a train wreck.

THE LOWDOWN: Although LA's Black Flag are widely considered the granddaddies of the genre, the hardcore

punk scene that sprung up in Washington DC was probably the most influential of them all. Bad Brains, The Teen Idles and Henry Rollins' pre-Black Flag band State Of Alert were all early exponents of the form, while Minor Threat were perhaps its most perfect incarnation. Most of the output came through Ian MacKaye's Dischord label, as did his short-lived post-Minor Threat band Embrace and Rites Of Spring, who between them paved the way for both emocore (aka emo) and the more experimental post-hardcore shapes of Fugazi and their ilk.

2. DOWNLOAD THESE: Your iPod is naked without...

■ **TEENAGER IN A BOX** – Government Issue ■ **YOU'RE X'D** – The Faith ■ **ORGANIZED SPORTS** – Void ■ **BURN NO BRIDGES** – Gray Matter ■ **LAST SONG** – Embrace ■ **CAN I SAY** – Dag Nasty ■ **NIC FIT** – The Untouchables ■ **GANG FIGHT** – State Of Alert ■ **MORAL MAJORITY** – Youth Brigade ■ **SONG FOR THE LADIES** – Good Clean Fun

THE INSIDER DARRYL JENIFER BAD BRAINS



"For us I think it all changed the first time we heard the punk music that was coming outta England. There was a special on PBS [US non-profit broadcaster] about the Sex Pistols and punk rock in the UK and that led to us going out and looking for records by The Damned and the Dead Boys and the Ramones and all that, and we just took it and put our own acrobatic spin on it. I wouldn't say we birthed the Washington DC punk scene because everybody else was hearing this same shit that we heard but we probably played our part. There's this whole myth too about the song Banned In DC but we weren't actually banned in DC. This one club told us not to come back and we had problems elsewhere but we still could've found places to play. We moved to New York because that was the next place on our path. We'd played DC and it was time to move on, to take that PMA (positive mental attitude) everywhere that it needed to go."

Feedback

Agree? Disagree? Tell us your ultimate DC Hardcore album at www.kerrang.com.

3. BUY THESE: THE ESSENTIAL ALBUMS



THE TEEN IDLES MINOR DISTURBANCE

DISCHORD, 1980
Although Bad Brains had been extant since 1977, The Teen Idles were first off the blocks when it came to committing their rantings to tape, bassist Ian MacKaye and drummer Jeff Nelson setting up the now legendary Dischord to release this EP.



BAD BRAINS BAD BRAINS

ROI, 1982
It might have been cut after they'd relocated to New York but Bad Brains' debut – originally on cassette only – was the first recorded testament of the band that helped spawn the DC scene, fusing hyperspeed punk rock with shots of reggae and more.



SCREAM STILL SCREAMING

DISCHORD, 1983
Less one-dimensional than many of their peers, Scream – a band that would go on to feature one Dave Grohl on drums – certainly played with ferocity but were also able to inject a Bad Brains-style dose of reggae and more inventive strokes to their sound.



MINOR THREAT OUT OF STEP

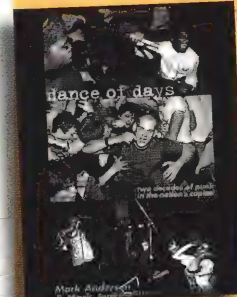
DISCHORD, 1983
Minor Threat not only encapsulated the entire hardcore scene in their knuckle-hard blasts, they also – for good or ill – kickstarted the straight-edge movement: 'Don't smoke, don't drink, don't fuck, at least I can fucking think', they yell on the title-track.



RITEs OF SPRING RITEs OF SPRING

DISCHORD, 1985
Along with Embrace, Rites Of Spring were responsible for steering the scene towards a less chest-beating, more experimental and emotional form of hardcore. Blame them for every emo horror since if you must, but for its time this was truly groundbreaking.

4. READ THIS:



DANCE OF DAYS BY MARK ANDERSON & MARK JENKINS

There was the music but there was also 'the message' and this book deals with both, examining the activism and movements that went hand-in-hand with the hollerings and thrashed-out chords. As such it can be a little po-faced in places but the authors don't stint in detailing the darker violent side, making this an absorbing historical document.

5. WATCH THIS:

YELLOW ARROW: CAPITOL OF PUNK

A superbly crafted and fact-packed site, this presents a series of 10 online video walks (or podcasts, if you prefer to digest them at your leisure) jumping from different geographical starting points in Washington DC and featuring snippets and interviews from all the major movers, from Bad Brains to Ian MacKaye. Find it at www.yellowarrow.net/capitolofpunk.



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KERRANG!

Earache: 10 Albums You Should Own Now!

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1 DECIDE TILL DEATH DO US PART Playboi's debut is a modern-day over-the-top metalcore masterpiece, the most brutal album to date. This one includes a free 'Glen Benton for president' patch to sew on your jacket and pledge your allegiance to the worthy. myspace.com/decidetilldeathdouspart

2 BIOMECHANICAL CANNIBALISED This is hi-definition cinematic visceral heavy metal with some of the most progressive and intricate playing that you will ever hear. The perfect soundtrack to being eaten alive. Can you survive Cannibalised? myspace.com/biomechanical

3 EVILE ENTER THE GRAVE These four rampaging young Americans are spearheading the thrash new wave. With European tours supporting Megadeth and Exodus under their belts, Their Flemming Rasmussen (Metallica) produced debut is an essential for any thrash metal fan. myspace.com/evile

4 V/A THRASHING LIKE A MANIAC With tracks from Municipal Waste, Evile, Gama Bomb, Bonded By Blood, SSS & many more. This must own compilation contains 16 ripping cuts of the best new bands in the worldwide thrash scene all on one CD or limited edition coloured vinyl LP. myspace.com/thrashinglikeamaniac

5 CARPASS: NECROTICISM, DESCANTING THE INSALUBRIOUS The recently returned UK Death Metal legends offer a revamped edition of their classic album, including the remastered album, an additional 3 bonus tracks and a 30 minute documentary all housed in deluxe digipak packaging. myspace.com/carpass

6 AT THE GATES SLAUGHTER OF THE SOUL The greatest Swedish death metal album ever now available with an irresistible bonus DVD that features recently discovered gig footage filmed in 1995 that captures this truly inspirational band in their prime. myspace.com/atthegatesand

7 GAMA BOMB CITIZEN BRAIN These four thrashers are the latest great talent to emerge from the underground thrash scene. Following their recent tour supporting Exodus, their brand new album contains 15 tracks of pure frantic thrash metal guaranteed to get any moshpit started. myspace.com/gamabomb

8 MUNICIPAL WASTE THE ART OF PARTYING Fast, furious and fun, Municipal Waste combine crossover thrash with an unhealthy dose of beer and mutants. The Art Of Partying contains 15 tracks of beer-fuelled madness that no party would be complete without. myspace.com/municipalwaste

9 CRYPT OF LUNA ETERNAL KINGDOM Get on tank rollers with their track list to 2006's 'Somewhere Along The Highway'. Perched for a June 2006 release, early studio reports suggest that their 5th studio album promises to be a much heavier and darker affair. Definitely one to keep a look out for. myspace.com/cryptofluna

10 BONDED BY BLOOD FEED THE BEAST One of the youngest and most proficient acts to emerge from the current L.A. thrash scene. With razor sharp riffs and youthful energy, Feed The Beast contains 12 shredding anthems of red hot molten thrash. myspace.com/bondedbyblood



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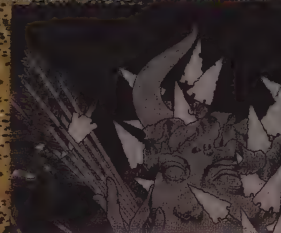
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MESHUGGAH OBZEN

(NUCLEAR BLAST)
KERRANG! SAID:
KKKK



It is impossible to talk about experimental or avant garde metal without mentioning this truly groundbreaking act: MESHUGGAH mix ultra-complicated rhythmic patterns with massive riffs and aggressive growls, combining Death Metal, Mathcore, Thrash and Progressive Metal and even experimental jazz style structures to create their unique style. Hugely well respected, Meshuggah have arguably delivered their finest album ever. „Obzen“ is once again a masterpiece of diversity and surprises.

The band will visit the UK in September.

DEATH ANGEL KILLING SEASON

(NUCLEAR BLAST)
KERRANG! SAID:
KKKK



Four years after the acclaimed comeback album 'The Art of Dying', Death Angel returns stronger than ever with a faster album, in the vein of the old classic „The Ultra Violence“. Great guitar riffs, catchy choruses and an amazing production will turn the last doubtful music devotees into loyal servants preaching the legendary Bay Area Thrashers are definitely here to stay.

TOURING: APRIL

15th - London, The Underworld
16th - Nottingham, Junction 7
17th - Glasgow, Ivory Blacks
18th - Wolverhampton, Civic

IN FLAMES A SENSE OF PURPOSE

(NUCLEAR BLAST)
KERRANG! SAID:
KKKK



From the instantly catchy album opener and first single "The Mirror's Truth" to the heavy riff based "Alias", from the brutal driving "Move Through Me" to the epic 8 minute "The Chosen Pessimist", In Flames' ninth studio album "A Sense of Purpose" is already a classic. Known for their unique approach on melodies and harmonies, while staying very aggressive, the Swedish metal Gods return with their most mature work to date, which will undoubtedly raise In Flames to one of the premier metal bands in the world.

"[A Sense of Purpose] re-affirms the band as genuine pioneers in their field." - Ryan Bird, Kerrang!

In Flames will play the Download festival in Donington, UK on June 15th.

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SUICIDE SILENCE THE CLEANSING

(CENTURY MEDIA)
KERRANG! SAID:
KKKK



Californian deathcore wunderkinds Suicide Silence have created what can only be described as one of the most devastating and overall brutal debut albums that's come along in some time, melding the most destructive elements of death, grind and hardcore with plenty of thuggish breakdowns and technical riffing that never compromises on sheer blunt force trauma, this is tailor made to go totally apeshit too. Having already rampaged across the US get ready for the carnage in the UK when Suicide Silence tour with Parkway Drive in May

For fans of: Job For A Cowboy, Bring Me The Horizon
on tour in May with Parkway Drive, Bury Your Dead, Shaped By Fate
1st - Newport, TJs / 2nd - Nottingham, Rock City
4th - Manchester, Academy 3 / 4th - Glasgow, Barfly
5th - Yeovil, The Orange Box / 6th - Sheffield, Corporation
7th - London, Underworld - SOLD OUT / 8th - London, Underworld

FIREWIND THE PREMONITION

(CENTURY MEDIA)
KERRANG! SAID:
KKKK



Having stunned audiences worldwide whilst on tour with the likes of Dragonforce, Arch Enemy & Sonata Arctic; anthemic metallers Firewind, featuring the guitar wizard Gus G brings you their brand new epic album. Of Each track a powerhouse of melody and musicality, the song structure will send classic metal fans into paroxysms of ecstasy. The yearning Celtic mannerisms of 'Mercenary Man' provide a memorable seal on one of the classiest melodic metal albums anyone will release this year.

For fans of: Dragonforce, Nightwish

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(CENTURY MEDIA)



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For Fans of: Machine Head, Fear Factory

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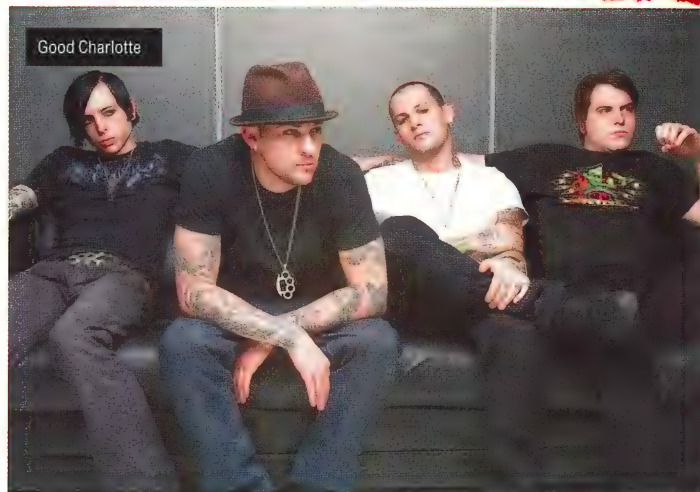
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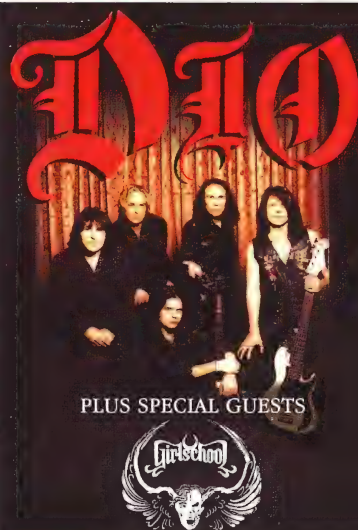
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the machine.**

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Gigs

SEVEN DAYS OF ROCK!

16/04/08 - 22/04/08

MINDLESS SELF INDULGENCE

SUPPORT: ROBOTS IN DISGUISE

TOUR DATES: LONDON CHARING CROSS ASTORIA APRIL 20, YEOVIL WESTLAND LEISURE CENTRE 22, LEEDS MET UNI 23, MANCHESTER ACADEMY 24, BIRMINGHAM ACADEMY 25, GLASGOW ABC 26.

WORDS: RYAN BIRD **PHOTO:** PAUL HARRIES

THEY'RE COMING TO FUCK UP A CUSTOMS CHECKPOINT NEAR YOU. GET THOSE METAL DETECTORS AT THE READY...

I hear you're about to go on your honeymoon?

JIMMY URINE (Vocals): "That's right! I'm literally heading out of the door to board a plane for Bora Bora. I'm looking to do nothing but swim, sleep and turn on my mojo! On the road I spend every day looking for something to do, so I'm looking forward to not having to do that."

Did you behave yourself on the big day?

JIMMY: "I was a very good boy! My wife and I (Morningwood vocalist Chantal Claret) got married back in January, so it's taken us a while to finally get this honeymoon thing nailed down. We're both in bands, so we have to do things according to when our schedules can fit them in."

One can only imagine what kind of a wedding you must have had...

JIMMY: "Actually, it was really nice and normal! We were going to do this Lord Of The Rings style ceremony in the middle of the woods, but in the end we just did it in our back yard. If we'd actually had time to plan it then we could have done something totally idiotic!"

Now that you're a married man will you be looking to leave the band in the same way as your ex-bassist Vanessa?

JIMMY: "No, I don't think so! Vanessa left to be an astronaut, but to be honest with you the space programme pretty much sucks now. I'd love to go to Mars, but I don't think I'm going anywhere yet."

That would have been a killer honeymoon!

JIMMY: "Oh, hell yeah! That sounds awesome to me, but I'm not sure if my wife would be so fond of the idea. 'Hey honey, we're going into outer space for seven years!'. By the time we got back it'd probably be Planet Of The Apes come to life. We'd have to repopulate the world!"

Now there's a frightening thought!

JIMMY: "(Laughs) What a frightening thought indeed!"

How did you enjoy your recent trip to Australia for the Soundwave Festival?

JIMMY: "Australia was fucking awesome! We had days off between some of the shows, and I spent one of them just walking around Sydney. I went over the Harbour Bridge, saw the Opera house, took a shit in the Four Seasons [hotel]... The usual!"

Just how the hell do you manage to get through customs?

JIMMY: "(Laughs) I barely do! I have to make a conscious effort to be on my best behaviour every time the band needs to go in or out of a country. I think that having a couple of women in the band definitely helps on the customs front. They seem to assume that they aren't going to do anything bad on a particularly huge scale."

Have you ever come close to receiving a good old-fashioned cavity search?

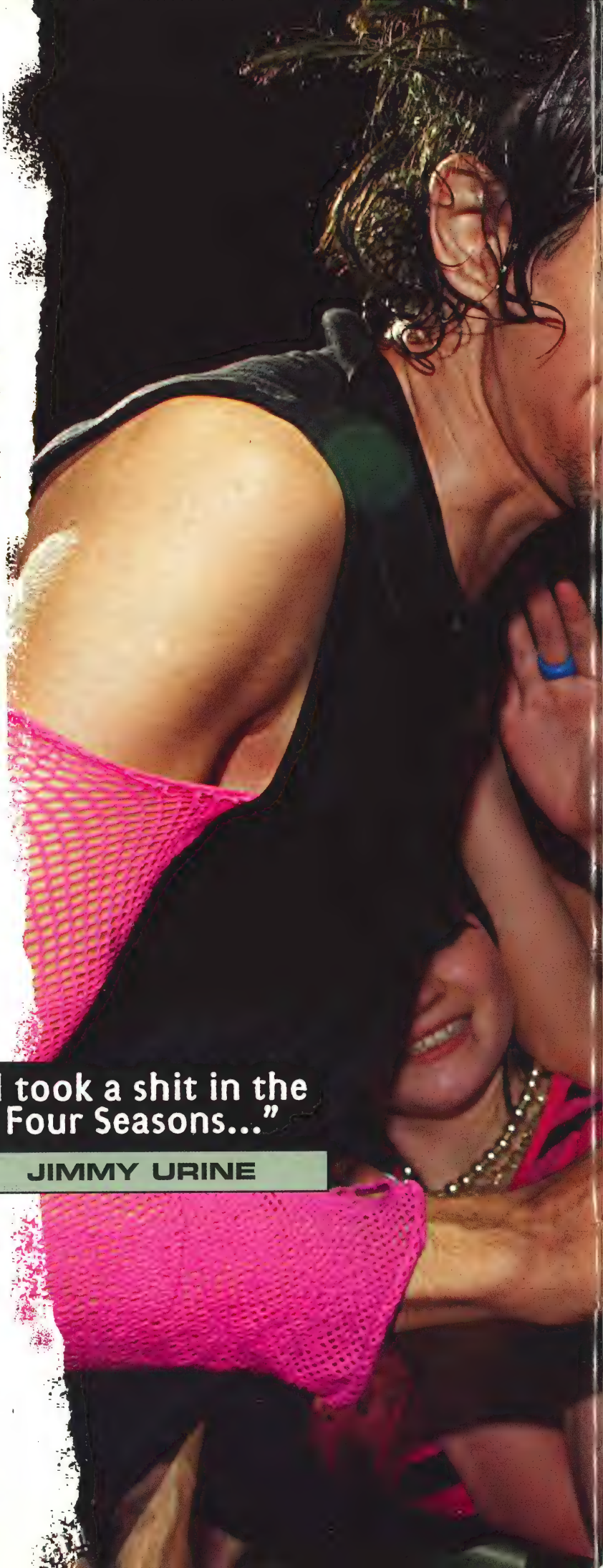
JIMMY: "At some point I must have been pretty close! Actually it's Steve [Righ?, MSI guitarist] who gets stopped the most. He has a metal hip, which always sets the detectors off. Watching him explain about it every single time he goes through security is hilarious. Sometimes they're really cool about it, but sometimes you just know that they're seconds away from breaking out the rubber glove!"

Whoever said that guitarists don't know how to have a good time!

JIMMY: "(Laughs) Exactly!"

"I took a shit in the
Four Seasons..."

JIMMY URINE





Tatt's life!



SICK OF IT ALL

SUPPORT: WISDOM IN CHAINS

TOUR DATES: STOKE UNDERGROUND APRIL 15, PLYMOUTH WHITE RABBIT 16, LONDON CAMDEN UNDERWORLD 17, KINGSTON PEEL 18, LEEDS JOSEPHS WELL 19, GLASGOW KING TUT'S 20, NORWICH QUEEN CHARLOTTE 21.

WORDS: RYAN BIRD

**THE KINGS OF NEW YORK
HARDCORE GET SET TO
DESTROY THE UK FOR THE
UMPTENTH TIME IN A YEAR.**

**PEOPLE ARE GOING TO START GETTING SICK OF
YOU IF YOU'RE NOT CAREFUL!**

LOU KOLLER (Vocals): "(Laughs) I know, it's crazy! A lot of bands that have gone to the UK as often as we do have ended up burning out and playing to barely a hundred people rather than five or six hundred people, but luckily that doesn't seem to be the case for us."

**DO YOU FIND THAT WHEN YOU'RE ON THE ROAD A
LOT OF YOUNGER BANDS CAN'T KEEP UP?**

LOU: "I've lost count of how many bands we've been on the road with that have started to burn

out long before us! They're always like, 'Here come the old timers!', but after the first week they're dying on their asses while we're still throwing ourselves around!"

**IS THERE A PART OF YOU THAT CRIES AT THE
THOUGHT OF ANOTHER SPIN KICK?**

LOU: "(Laughs) I don't know about that, but it can certainly take its toll. Every one of us wakes up in total agony most days. Last year we had to cancel a tour so that I could have surgery, which we'd never had to do before, but it's not really an issue. It's just something that comes with the territory."

**HAVE YOU EVER SEEN SOMEONE IN THE CROWD
EAT SHIT WHILST TRYING TO COPY YOUR MOVES?**

LOU: "I can't even begin to tell you how many times I've seen that! I'm up there yelling my balls off and some asshole in the audience is on his butt because he couldn't get his leg high enough. Not laughing when that happens is the hardest part about being in this band!"

My First Gig



**GUNS N'ROSES
SUPPORT: METALLICA**

KANSAS CITY, USA

SEPTEMBER 17, 1992

"I was an exchange student in Kansas when I was 15, and I wrote to my host family before I went over and told them I listened to any music except heavy metal because I hated it. When I was there they asked me if I wanted to go and see the Guns N'Roses and Metallica show. At first I said no but in the end I went to see what the atmosphere would be like. Metallica played first and totally changed my life. It was when James Hetfield had burnt his hand from the pyro so he was only singing, which looking back was a really rare thing to see. I hung around for Guns N'Roses but they weren't as impressive. After Metallica I was still having some sort of shocked orgasm. I became a metal fan overnight and have never stopped since."

TUOMAS HOLOPAINEN, NIGHTWISH

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Gigs

SEVEN DAYS OF ROCK!

16/04/08 - 22/04/08

WEDNESDAY

APRIL 16



SHEFFIELD: Against Me!

BOURNEMOUTH JETHRO TULL (Pavillion: 0870 1113000)

BRIGHTON PRESIDENTS OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, ELECTRIC EEL SHOCK, KID CARPET, LOS MENDOZAS (Concorde 2: 01273 673311)

BRIGHTON TEXTURES (Engine Room: 01273 323161)

BRIGHTON RAGING SPEEDHORN, TROPHY SCARS (Freebutt: 01273 603974)

EDINBURGH MORBID REMAINS, RISE WITH THE FALLEN, YOUR FEARS, STERN CHASE (Ark: 0131 228 9393)

GLASGOW KICKING BUCKETS, TO THE GLORY OF 13, VERONA, VINYL, NEXT EDITION (Ivory Blacks: 0141 248 4114)

GLASGOW SLAVES TO GRAVITY, LEFTWIDEOPEN (King Tut's: 0141 221 5279)

GLASGOW MEXICOFALLZ, ME V'S HERO, NOT ADVISED, ATK STAR, WE THE FALLEN, NON OPERATIONAL, THE OPEN PLAN (Rockers: 0141 221 0726)

HEREFORD LOS CAMPESINOS!, PENCIL TOES, GO FASTER>>, MAGIC SOCKS (Jailhouse: 01432 344354)

KINGSTON EVITA, YOUNG HOLLYWOOD, MANY THINGS UNTOLD, SEND FORTH THE COLONY, 1000 SINS (Peel: 020 8546 3516)

LEEDS WITCHCRAFT, GENTLEMAN'S PISTOLS, DANAVA (Rio's: 01274 735549)

LEICESTER SYLOSIS, IDLE HOLLOW, DECEPTION, MANUFACTURED GOD (Shed: 0116 2622255)

LIVERPOOL YEAR LONG DISASTER, GU MEDICINE (Barfly: 0151 707 6171)

LONDON ANGELS & AIRWAVES, YOU ME AT SIX (Astoria, Charing Cross: 020 7434 9592)

LONDON BLACK TIDE, GLAMOUR OF THE KILL (Bar Academy, Islington: 0844 4772000)

LONDON DR SLAGLEBERRY (Bull And Gate, Kentish Town: 020 7485 5358)

LONDON THE STORY SO FAR, OUT OF SIGHT, FOREVER WEDNESDAY (Cross Kings, Kings Cross: 020 7278 8318)

LONDON THE BREEDERS (Koko, Camden: 0870 1451115)

LONDON SHADOW ARMY, CUE TO ECLIPSE, THE PRESSURE (Oh! Bar, Camden Town: 020 7383 0330)

LONDON DIVIDING THE LINE, BURN DOWN ROME, ALL FORGOTTEN, AS THE RIGHTEOUS FALL, FAREWELL CITY (Underworld, Camden: 020 7482 1932)

MANCHESTER SIMPLE PLAN, CAGE THE ELEPHANT (Academy 2: 0844 4772000)

MANCHESTER HAUNTS (Ruby Lounge: 0161 834 1392)

NEWPORT FANDANGLE (TJ's: 01633 216608)

NOTTINGHAM DEATH ANGEL (Junktion 7: 0115 9116959)

NOTTINGHAM THE HIVES (Rock City: 0115 9412544)

PLYMOUTH SICK OF IT ALL, WISDOM IN CHAINS (White Rabbit: 01752 227522)

PORTSMOUTH 65DAYSOFSTATIC, GAY FOR JOHNNY DEPP, PILGRIM FATHERS (Wedgewood Rooms: 023 9286 3911)

SHEFFIELD AGAINST ME!, KILL CASINO (Corporation: 0114 276062)

SOUTHAMPTON TRIGGER THE BLOODSHED, PIMITAI, PURESIST, SONERTY (Joiners: 023 8022 5612)

TORQUAY THE XCERTS (Rock: 01803 295800)

WREXHAM FRANK TURNER (Central Station: 01978 311857)

THURSDAY

APRIL 17

BASINGSTOKE JETHRO TULL (Anvil: 01256 844244)

BOURNEMOUTH FANDANGLE (Gander: 01202 290294)

BRIGHTON YOU ANIMALS, 4 OR 5 MAGICIANS, DECADES (Freebutt: 01273 603974)

BRISTOL THE HIVES (Academy: 0844 4772000)

CANTERBURY SHADOW ASPECT, SILENCE DIES, NEON HALO (Beercart Arms: 01227 826901)

DUNFERMLINE BURY YOUR SENSES, NOT ADVISED, MEXICOFALLZ, ME V.S. HERO, THE MANICOTES (Monty's: 01383 623383)

EDINBURGH SLAVES TO GRAVITY (Cabaret Voltaire: 0131 467 2539)

EDINBURGH JAKIL, EPIC26 (Heriot-Watt Union: 01896892170)

GLASGOW DIAMOND HEAD, ATTICA RAGE (Barfly: 0141 204 5700)

GLASGOW YEAR LONG DISASTER (Cathouse: 0141 248 6606)

GLASGOW DEATH ANGEL, MERCENARY, DEMOLITION, CIRCLE OF TYRANTS, EXTREMA (Ivory Blacks: 0141 248 4114)

GLASGOW HAUNTS, THINK: FIRE, THE CUTS (King Tut's: 0141 221 5279)

GLASGOW RISE WITH THE FALLEN, YOUR FEARS (Soundhaus: 0141 221 4659)

KINGSTON MUTED, GIANT FALLS (Peel: 020 8546 3516)

LEICESTER BACKLINE (Shed: 0116 2622255)



SOUTHAMPTON: Black Tide

LONDON AGAINST ME!, KILL CASINO (Academy, Islington: 0844 4772000)

LONDON ANGELS & AIRWAVES, YOU ME AT SIX (Astoria, Charing Cross: 020 7434 9592)

LONDON DEVIL TRIGGER, DRAEGON, THE LATTER DAY SAINTS (Grand, Clapham: 020 7223 6523)

LONDON THE BREEDERS (Koko, Camden: 0870 1451115)

LONDON OUTLAW (Monto Water Rats, King's Cross: 020 7734 8932)

LONDON SICK OF IT ALL, WISDOM IN CHAINS, KNUCKLEDUST (Underworld, Camden: 020 7482 1932)

LONDON RAGING SPEEDHORN, TROPHY SCARS (Upstairs @ Garage, Highbury: 0871 2301093)

NEWCASTLE-UNDER-LYME TYGERS OF PAN TANG, VOO DOO SIX (Rigger: 01782 616602)

NOTTINGHAM 4FT FINGERS (Junktion 7: 0115 9116959)

SOUTHAMPTON BLACK TIDE, GLAMOUR OF THE KILL, TERRATHORN (Joiners: 023 8022 5612)

WAKEFIELD VINNIES BASH, ISOTOPIA, FALLEN CHAOS (Snooty Fox: 01924 374455)

FRIDAY

APRIL 18

ABERDEEN SLAVES TO GRAVITY (KEF: 01224 648000)

AYR ATTICA RAGE (Harley's Bar: 01292 288474)

BLACKPOOL THE NEUROPHOBICS, THE SENTON BOMBS, HORRORCAUST (Westcoast Rock Cafe: 07707 290710)

BRADFORD TYGERS OF PAN TANG, VOO DOO SIX (Gasworks Bar: 01274 732200)

BRIGHTON RED LORRY YELLOW LORRY (Engine Room: 01273 323161)

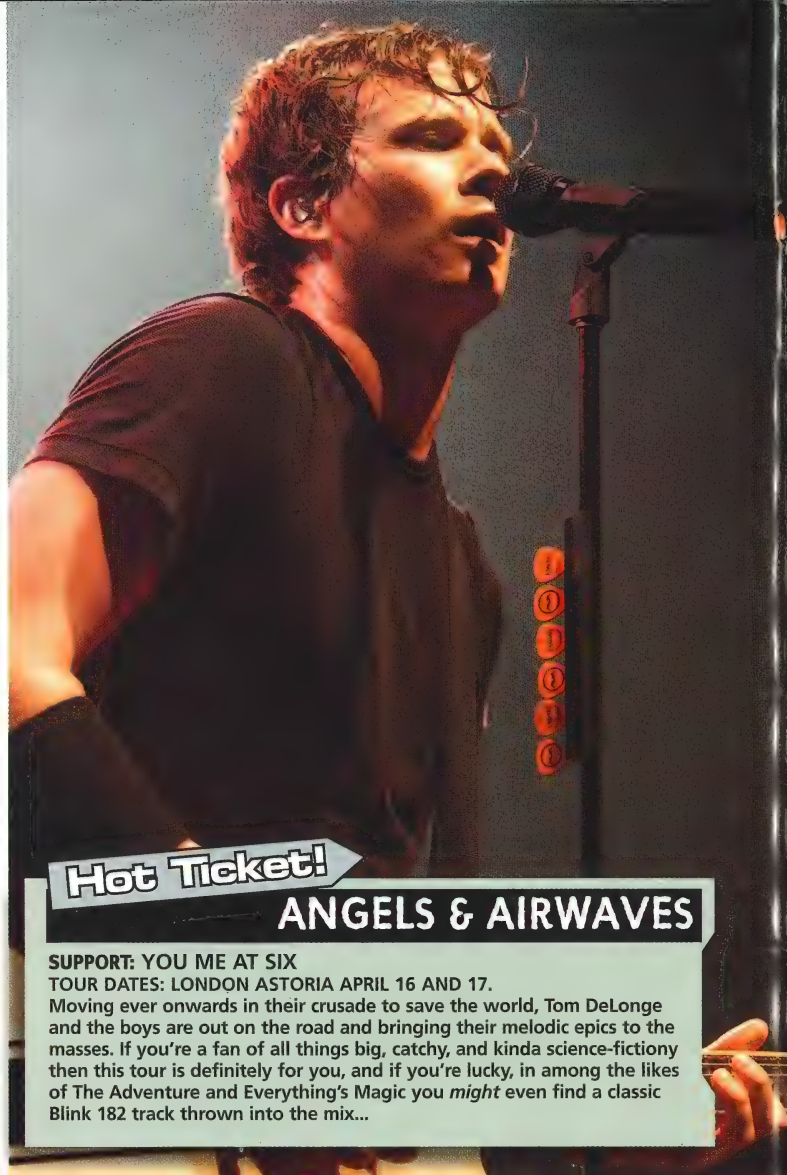
BRISTOL PRESIDENTS OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, ELECTRIC EEL SHOCK (Academy: 0844 4772000)

BRISTOL JETHRO TULL (Colston Hall: 0117 9223682)

COALVILLE PARIAS ON FIRE (Victoria: 01509 508423)

EDINBURGH VANTAGE POINT, FLATLINER, ONE EYE OPEN, INERTIA AVENUE (Ark: 0131 228 9393)

GLASGOW THE ALARM A.O.R., THE RED EYES, THE FAKES (Rockers: 0141 221 0726)



Hot Ticket!

ANGELS & AIRWAVES

SUPPORT: YOU ME AT SIX

TOUR DATES: LONDON ASTORIA APRIL 16 AND 17.

Moving ever onwards in their crusade to save the world, Tom DeLonge and the boys are out on the road and bringing their melodic epics to the masses. If you're a fan of all things big, catchy, and kinda science-fictiony then this tour is definitely for you, and if you're lucky, in among the likes of The Adventure and Everything's Magic you *might* even find a classic Blink 182 track thrown into the mix...

HADFIELD AGHAST, TEUTORBURG FOREST (Crypt: 07515 772439)

HAWICK RISE WITH THE FALLEN, YOUR FEARS (Red Room: 01450 373233)

ILFRACOMBE THE YUM YUMS, FALLING APART, THE UNDERCLASS STRIFE (Marlboro Club: 07854 190177)

KINGSTON GUNS 2 ROSES (Grey Horse: 020 8546 4818)

KINGSTON SICK OF IT ALL, WISDOM IN CHAINS (Peel: 020 8546 3516)

LEEDS YEAR LONG DISASTER, GU MEDICINE (Josephs Well: 0113 2031861)

LONDON THE HIVES (Academy, Brixton: 0844 4772000)

LONDON SIMPLE PLAN, KIDS IN GLASS HOUSES (Astoria, Charing Cross: 020 7434 9592)

LONDON 3H0STW0MEXIC0SANDATIN0FSPANNE RS, EVER SINCE THE LAKE CAUGHT FIRE, OUR OWN DEVICES, DIE DIE DENEUE (Buffalo Bar, Highbury: 020 7359 6191)

LONDON SPIT LIKE THIS (Grosvenor, Stockwell: 020 7738 1799)

LONDON FABULOUS PENETRATORS, VICARS (Music Room, Tufnell Park: 07786 805518)

MANCHESTER DIAMOND HEAD, I.C.O.N (Academy 3: 0844 4772000)

MIDDLESBROUGH THE AUTOMATIC (Cornerhouse: 01642 247755)



LONDON: The Hives

NUNEATON GUNDOGS, IDLE HOLLOW (Queens Hall: 024 7664 2454)

ROCHDALE BLACK ROSE (Transport Club: 01706 646596)

SOUTHAMPTON THE STRINGS, DEKOLTA, VAN DER PLAS, SILVERSWEEP (Joiners: 023 8022 5612)

STOKE-ON-TRENT 4FT FINGERS (Glebe: 01782 844600)

SWANSEA ESKIMO, GRUFF REES (Milkwoodjam: 01792 477577)

WEYMOUTH FANDANGLE (Queen's Hotel: 01305 786326)

WOLVERHAMPTON DEATH ANGEL (Civic Hall: 0870 3207000)

SATURDAY

APRIL 19

BALLYMENA METALLITIA, REVENGEANCE (Diamond Rock Club: 07989588931)

BIRMINGHAM PRESIDENTS OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, ELECTRIC EEL SHOCK (Academy: 0844 4772000)

BIRMINGHAM WHOLE LOTTA DC (Sheldon Marquee: 0121 741 1931)

BRISTOL THEY WILL ROCK YOU (Fleece: 0117 9299008)

DUNDEE SLAVES TO GRAVITY (Westport Bar: 01382 200008)

EDINBURGH HUMANFLY, MEA CULPA, FRIDAY NIGHT GUNFIGHT, HITCHER, KILL ALL CELEBRITIES (Hive: 0870 4000818)

FOLKESTONE JETHRO TULL (Leas Cliff Hall: 01303 253193)

GLASGOW THE ARGUMENTS, ALEX MORAN & THE SEVEN DEADLY SINS, ELECTROLITE (Barfly: 0141 204 5700)

GLASGOW JAMIE BARNES & COCHISE, THE PENETRATIONS, THE FAKES (Rockers: 0141 221 0726)

GLOUCESTER 4FT FINGERS (Guildhall: 01452 505089)

HADFIELD ALIVE & KICKING (Crypt: 07515 772439)

KETTERING DIAMOND HEAD, THE CALLING, STILL REMAINS, OVERTURE (Sawyers: 01536 484800)

Photos: Chris Casey



NOTTINGHAM: Year Long Disaster

KINGSTON PANIC ROOM, JUMP (Peel: 020 8546 3516)
LANGLEY MILL I.C.O.N, WITCHFYNDY (Potters: 01773 530104)
LEEDS SICK OF IT ALL, WISDOM IN CHAINS (Josephs Well: 0113 2031861)
LEICESTER LOVE AND A 45, EASTFIELD, SINISTER 66, TV SMITH, FIRSTWAVE, CHRIS ODD, NEON SARCASTIC, THE CHARGERS (Shed: 0116 2622255)
LONDON EMILIE AUTUMN, MATT HOWDEN, HELALYN FLOWERS (Academy, Islington: 0844 4772000)
LONDON RED FLAG 77, THE DRESDENS, THE BLEACH BOY, THE DEAD BATTERIES, STATE OF URGENCY (Bridge House, Canning Town: 020 7474 3200)
LONDON DIRTY DC (Standard Music Venue, Walthamstow: 020 8527 1966)
LONDON MERZBOW, SUTCLIFFE JUGEND, SATORI (ULU, Euston: 020 7403 3331)
MANCHESTER WHOLE LOTTA LED (Ruby Lounge: 0161 834 1392)
MARGATE PAPA RAZZI WHORE, LIBERTY, HOLLYWOOD SUICIDE, THE SKETCH, THE LETTABEES, DAYFALL, THE 3RD HALF AND THE SELF TITLED (Sugar Lounge Complex: 01843 280098)
NEWCASTLE RISE WITH THE FALLEN, YOUR FEARS (Krash: 0191 2619071)
NEWCASTLE-UNDER-LYME HEILIGE LANCE (Rigger: 01782 616602)
NOTTINGHAM YEAR LONG DISASTER (Rock City: 0115 9412544)
PLYMOUTH TYGERS OF PAN TANG, VOODOO SIX (White Rabbit: 01752 227522)
SOUTHAMPTON ZOLOF THE ROCK & ROLL DESTROYER, PICKLED DICK, HERBARLEY (Joiners: 023 8022 5612)
SWANSEA SABBATH BLOODY SABBATH (Milkwoodjam: 01792 477577)
SWINDON FANDANGLE (Furnace: 01793 534238)
WAKEFIELD OZZMOSIS, GEOFF WATSON (Snooty Fox: 01924 374455)
WOLVERHAMPTON SIMPLE PLAN, CAGE THE ELEPHANT (Wulfrun Hall: 01902 552121)

SUNDAY

APRIL 20

BRIGHTON SPIT LIKE THIS, DANGER (Engine Room: 01273 323161)
BRIGHTON TYGERS OF PAN TANG, VOODOO SIX (Freebutt: 01273 603974)
BRISTOL BORIS (Cooler: 0117 9450999)
EXETER THE XCERTS (Hub: 01392 424628)
GLASGOW FROM COLLISIONS I COLLAPSE, THE CONDEMNED, DEAD INSIDE, TO THE RUINS (Ivory Blacks: 0141 248 4114)
GLASGOW SICK OF IT ALL, WISDOM IN CHAINS (King Tut's: 0141 221 5279)
GLASGOW WE'RE NOT SUPERHEROES ANYMORE, ECHO BASE, EVER THE OPTIMIST, 7 CAR PILE UP, MIND SET A THREAT, THE WRONG ONES (Rockers: 0141 221 0726)
LONDON MINDLESS SELF INDULGENCE, ROBOTS IN DISGUISE (Astoria, Charing Cross: 020 7434 9592)
LONDON THIS IS SPARTA, PAGES END, WE MOVE AS ONE, I BREATHE FIRE (Bridge House, Canning Town: 020 7474 3200)
LONDON TROUBLE, SAHG, GORILLA MONSOON (Dingwalls, Camden Lock: 020 7267 1577)
LONDON REZUREX, STELLAR CORPSES, THE RUINED,



LONDON: Trouble

SCOURGE OF RIVER CITY (Underworld, Camden: 020 7482 1932)
MANCHESTER PRESIDENTS OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, ELECTRIC EEL SHOCK (Academy: 0844 4772000)
MANCHESTER YEAR LONG DISASTER, GU MEDICINE (Roadhouse: 0161 237 9789)
NOTTINGHAM FANDANGLE (Junktion 7: 0115 9116959)



Hot Ticket! SONATA ARCTICA

SUPPORT: AFTER FOREVER, PAGAN'S MIND
TOUR DATES: LONDON ISLINGTON ACADEMY APRIL 21, LEEDS RIO'S 22, GLASGOW GARAGE 23, SHEFFIELD CORPORATION 25, DUBLIN BUTTON FACTORY 26, BIRMINGHAM JB'S 27.
 If you like your metal of the power variety – and specifically of the *Finnish* power variety, then boy are you gonna be one happy little camper, because Sonata Arctica are headed this way with all guns blazing. So, it's time to brush your hair out, warm up your wrists for some dynamic horn throwing, and clear your throat ready to belt out every word in the most histrionic manner you can fashion...

NOTTINGHAM SIMPLE PLAN, CAGE THE ELEPHANT (Rock City: 0115 9412544)
WAKEFIELD ANIMAL INTERROGATION (Snooty Fox: 01924 374455)

MONDAY

APRIL 21



MANCHESTER: Boris

BRIGHTON THE XCERTS (Freebutt: 01273 603974)
BRIGHTON FRANK TURNER (Hanbury Ballroom: 01273605789)
BRISTOL SIMPLE PLAN, CAGE THE ELEPHANT (Academy: 0844 4772000)
GLASGOW SHADOWS CHASING GHOSTS (Rockers: 0141 221 0726)
HULL SLAVES TO GRAVITY (Lamp: 01482 326137)
LEICESTER EXIT AVENUE, CAPTURE THE FLAG, CENTOURI, CHAISCURO (Shed: 0116 2622255)
LONDON SONATA ARCTICA, AFTER FOREVER, PAGAN'S MIND (Academy, Islington: 0844 4772000)
LONDON YEAR LONG DISASTER, GU MEDICINE (Barfly, Camden: 020 7691 4244)
LONDON W.A.K.O., HELGRIND, SANCTORUM, THIS DYING HOUR (Underworld, Camden: 020 7482 1932)
MANCHESTER BORIS (Ruby Lounge: 0161 834 1392)
NEWCASTLE FANDANGLE (Trillians: 0191 232 1619)
NORWICH SICK OF IT ALL, WISDOM IN CHAINS (Queen Charlotte: 01603 631144)
SOUTHAMPTON TYGERS OF PAN TANG, VOODOO VEGAS, AROTEH, JENNA'S REVENGE (Joiners: 023 8022 5612)
SOUTHEND DORP (Chinnery's: 01702 436501)
WAKEFIELD STERIOD FREAK PUSSY (Snooty Fox: 01924 374455)

TUESDAY

APRIL 22

BIRMINGHAM GOGOL BORDELLO (Academy: 0844 4772000)
BIRMINGHAM BORIS (Medicine Bar: 0121 693 6333)
BOSTON PARIAS ON FIRE (Axe And Cleaver: 01205 367300)
BRIGHTON BUTTON UP, P FOR PERSIA (Freebutt: 01273 603974)
BRISTOL DORP (Croft: 0117 987 4144)
CAMBRIDGE FRANK TURNER (Barfly: 0870 7090999)
EDINBURGH ROSALITA, JADED PLAYBOY (Ark: 0131 228 9393)
GLASGOW SUFFOCATION, ANNOTATIONS OF AN AUTOPSY, GODLESS CRUSADE, TRIGGER THE BLOODSHED (Ivory Blacks: 0141 248 4114)
GLASGOW FANDANGLE, SHORT WARNING, THE HOSTILES, PLACEMENT FOR THE UNDERSTATEMENT, TRACK 9 (Rockers: 0141 221 0726)
GUILDFORD STICKSHIFT, BLIND TYRANT, MY RECLAIM (Boiler Room: 01483 440022)
HIGH WYCOMBE OUTCRY COLLECTIVE, NONE THE LESS, 24 HOUR AFFAIR (Nags Head: 01494 521758)
LEEDS SLAVES TO GRAVITY (Cockpit: 0113 2441573)
LEEDS SONATA ARCTICA, AFTER FOREVER, PAGAN'S MIND (Rio's: 01274 735549)
LEICESTER BACKLINE, GLITCH, DAMP MATTRESS, THE DODSONS (Shed: 0116 2622255)
LONDON SILENT ETERNITY (Boston Music Rooms, Tufnell Park: 020 7272 8153)
LONDON THE SKELTERS (Bridge House, Canning Town: 020 7474 3200)
LONDON LES FIGURINES, R.T.T, THE COLOUR BAND (Comedy, Leicester Square: 020 7839 7261)
LONDON DUB TRIO, INVASION (Underworld, Camden: 020 7482 1932)
NEWCASTLE PRESIDENTS OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, ELECTRIC EEL SHOCK (Academy: 0844 4772000)
NEWPORT GLASS AND ASHES (Le Pub: 01633 221477)
WREXHAM DEVIDRIVER, 3 INCHES OF BLOOD (Central Station: 01978 311857)
YEOVIL MINDLESS SELF INDULGENCE, ROBOTS IN DISGUISE (Westlands Leisure: 0870 2643333)



LONDON: Dub Trio

Hot Ticket! SIMPLE PLAN

SUPPORT: CAGE THE ELEPHANT, KIDS IN GLASS HOUSES (LONDON ONLY)
TOUR DATES: MANCHESTER ACADEMY II APRIL 16, LONDON CHARING CROSS ASTORIA 18, WOLVERHAMPTON WULFRUN HALL 19, NOTTINGHAM ROCK CITY 20, BRISTOL ACADEMY 21.
 "Last time we were in the UK, we did three shows in London in one day and it was nuts!" vocalist Pierre Bouvier reminisces: "Each show had its own theme – the first was a lot of songs from our first album, which we hadn't played for a long time; the second was an acoustic set, and for the third we did a full show with the whole bang. So whoever missed us that time should come see us this time for sure!"

For free inclusion, e-mail your gig/festival details to: gigs@kerrang.com
 Please include: 1. DATE 2. CITY 3. VENUE (+ phone number) 4. BAND (+band genre) 5. SUPPORT BANDS or FESTIVAL INFO. No attachments!
 Note: if any of these details are missing, listing will not be included.
 Deadline is 15 days previous to Kerrang! issue dates.

Gigs

UPCOMING SHOWS



just announced!



COMEBACK KIDS: Metallica

3 INCHES OF BLOOD

Wrexham Central Station April 22 (supporting DevilDriver), Birmingham Academy 23, Glasgow Barrowland 24, Manchester Academy 25, London Brixton Academy 26 (supporting Opeth), then headline: Swindon Furnace 27, Brighton Freebutt 28, Sheffield Corporation 30, Peterborough Park May 1, Leeds Rio 2, Edinburgh Studio 24 3.

THE AUTOMATIC

Monmouth Blake Theatre May 10, Caernarfon Galleri 11, Brecon Brycheiniog 12, Wrexham Central Station 29, Manchester Academy II June 14, Glasgow Garage 15, Newcastle Northumbria Uni 16, Nottingham Rescue Rooms 17, Bristol Trinity 19, Birmingham Academy II 20, Sheffield Academy 21, Oxford Academy 22, London King's Cross Scala 24.

CLUTCH

Oxford Academy August 18, Brighton Barfly 28, Birmingham Barfly 29, London Islington Academy 30.

FEEDER

Newcastle Northumbria Uni May 21, Glasgow Classic Grand 22, Sheffield Leadmill 24, Birmingham Barfly 25, Brighton Concorde II 27, Cardiff Point 28, Manchester Academy III 30, Bristol Thekla 31 (these are fanclub shows).

FUNERAL FOR A FRIEND

Manchester Academy III June 30, Glasgow King Tut's July 1, London Strand King's College 2, Newport TJ's 4.

ISLE OF WIGHT FESTIVAL 2008

Isle Of Wight Seaclose Park June 13-15. Line-up includes: Sex Pistols, Iggy & The Stooges, The Answer, Black Stone Cherry, Feeder.

LOSTPROPHETS

Cardiff Solus June 10, London Charing Cross Astoria 11, Norwich UEA 12, Download Festival 15.

LIT

London Camden Electric Ballroom May 8.

MADBALL

London Camden Underworld June 24, Newcastle Trillians 25, Plymouth White Rabbit 26.

MAGNUM

Bristol Academy May 7, Wolverhampton Wulfrun Hall 8, Newcastle Academy 9, Oxford Academy 10, Manchester

Academy 11, Sheffield Academy 12.

MASTERS OF REALITY

London Islington Academy June 18.

METALLICA/TENACIOUS D

Dublin Marlay Park August 20, Reading and Leeds Festival 22-24.

MOTORHEAD

Download Festival June 13, Wolverhampton Civic Hall November 3, Ipswich Regent Theatre 4, Brighton Dome 6, Newcastle Academy 7, Sheffield Academy 8, Glasgow Academy 10, Leicester De Montfort Hall 11, Southampton Guildhall 12, Manchester Apollo 14, Cardiff Uni Students' Union 15, Cambridge Corn Exchange 17, Bristol Colston Hall 18, Exeter Uni 19, Norwich UEA 21, London Hammersmith Apollo 22. Support: Saxon and Danko Jones.

THE RACONTEURS

London Hammersmith Apollo May 14, Liverpool Academy 15.

THE SUBWAYS

Wrexham Central Station May 18, Preston 53 Degrees 20, Coventry Kasbah 21, Sheffield Foundry 24, Peterborough Cresset 26, Portsmouth Wedgewood Rooms 27, Leicester Uni 30, Cambridge Junction June 8, Reading Uni 10, London Camden Koko 11.

THUNDER

Exeter Uni November 21, Manchester Academy 22, Sheffield City Hall 23, Glasgow Academy 25, Newcastle City Hall 26, Wolverhampton Civic Hall 27, Cambridge Corn Exchange 29, London Charing Cross Astoria 30.

DRAGONFORCE

SUPPORT: TBC

DATES: Manchester Academy September 26, Birmingham Academy 27, Southampton Guildhall 28, Cardiff Uni 30, Nottingham Rock City October 1, London Charing Cross Astoria 3, Norwich UEA 5, Leeds Uni 7, Newcastle Academy 8, Glasgow Academy 10, Belfast Mandela Hall 11, Dublin Ambassador 12, Cork Savoy 13.

THE LOWDOWN: Sometimes, nothing will do apart from a hefty dose of ultra-melodic, ultra-fast, ultra-mental metal played by a bunch of lunatics from Croydon – so thank God DragonForce are heading back out on the road! Not exactly known for being particularly restrained or subtle, their show is a relentless rush of histrionic vocals, trampoline-induced daftness, and the kind of frantic fretboard mangling that reduces most mortal guitarists to a sobbing heap on the floor. Don't miss 'em!

LAST TIME KI SAID: "A testosterone blur of tossed hair, leather strides, ferocious facial expressions and an unquenchable thirst for speed and riffage, the sight and sound of DragonForce is nothing short of remarkable." **KKKK**

K1139 Birmingham Academy 05.12.06

Tickets for all KI gigs are available from:

ALoud.COM
buy your tickets from www.aloud.com

4FT FINGERS

Nottingham Junktion 7 April 17, Stoke Glebe 18, Gloucester Guildhall 19, Cambridge Cellar Bar 8 25, Staines Iguauna Bar 26, Sheffield Casbah May 2, Liverpool Academy 3, Birmingham Academy 4, Weald Myfest @ Airfield 5, Norwich Waterfront 8, Lincoln Bivouac 17, Bristol Academy 31, Newcastle Academy June 1.

KERRANG! MOST WANTED

36 CRAZYFISTS

Brighton Barfly June 9, Cardiff Barfly 10, Birmingham Barfly 11, York Fibbers 12, Liverpool Barfly 16, Cambridge Barfly 17.

65DAYSOFCRISIS

Portsmouth Wedgewood Rooms April 16, Glasgow King Tut's 29.

A DAY TO REMEMBER /

THE DEVIL WEARS PRADA /

ALESANA

London Camden Barfly June 5, Colchester Arts Centre 6, Stoke Sugarmill 7, Birmingham Barfly 8, Cardiff Barfly 9, Manchester Academy III 10, York Fibbers 11, Glasgow King Tut's 12.

AGAINST ME!

Sheffield Corporation April 16, London Islington Academy 17. Support: Kill Casino.

ALTER BRIDGE

Glasgow Academy November 5, London Brixton Academy 8.

ANGELS & AIRWAVES

London Astoria April 16 and 17. Support: You Me At Six.

ANTI-FLAG

Give It A Name London May 10, Give It A Name Sheffield 11, Inverness Ironworks 13, Dundee Fat Sam's 14, Glasgow QMU 15, Dublin Academy 17, Belfast Spring & Airbrake 18. Support: State Radio.

BLACK REBEL MOTORCYCLE CLUB

Cork Savoy May 8, Derry Nerve Centre 12, Galway Roisin Dubh 13, Dublin Academy 14.

KERRANG! TOUR

London Islington Bar Academy April 16, Southampton Joiners 17.

BLOODSTOCK OPEN AIR 2008

Derby Catton Hall August 15-17. Line-up: Nightwish, Dimmu Borgir, Opeth, Overkill, At The Gates, Primal Fear and more.

BON JOVI

Southampton St Mary's June 11, Glasgow Hampden Park 21, Manchester City Of Manchester Stadium 22, Coventry Ricoh Arena 24, Bristol Ashton Gate 25, London Twickenham Stadium 27 and 28.

BOYS LIKE GIRLS / CUTE IS

WHAT WE AIM FOR

Leeds Slam Dunk Festival May 25, Manchester Club Academy 26, Cardiff Solus 27, Portsmouth Wedgewood Rooms 28, London Charing Cross Astoria II 30, Birmingham Academy II 31, Glasgow Garage June 1, Oxford Academy 2.

BORIS

Bristol Cooler April 20, Manchester Ruby Lounge 21, Birmingham Medicine Bar 22, London Euston ULU 23.

BREEDERS

London Camden Koko April 16 and 17.

KERRANG! MOST WANTED!

CANCER BATS

Cardiff Barfly May 12, Birmingham Barfly 13, Glasgow Barfly 14, York Fibbers 15, Cambridge Barfly 16, Leeds Cockpit 18, Nottingham Old Angel 19, Sheffield Corporation 20, Manchester Satan's Hollow 21, London Camden Barfly 22, Belfast Spring & Airbrake 24, Dublin Hub 25. Support: Johnny Truant.

CEPHALIC CARNAGE / HATE

ETERNAL

Cardiff Barfly June 1, Glasgow Barfly 2, Dublin Whelans 4, Sheffield Corporation 5, London Camden Underworld 6.

CHILDREN OF BODOM

Download Festival June 13-15, and Dublin Vicar Street June 11, Glasgow Academy 12.

CHODOS

London Camden Barfly May 9.

CONVERGE

London Camden Underworld July 13,



Star Picks!

DEF LEPPARD



"The first time I saw them was the first gig that Rick Allen did with one arm in the UK, at Donington in 1986. It was absolutely incredible and every single person in that crowd was 100 per cent behind them – it was a truly amazing vibe. They've got an awesome back catalogue and live they're just incredible. If you want to learn a craft and you want to see how it's done, then go and see Def Leppard."

RICHIE EDWARDS, STONE GODS

Nottingham Rock City 14, Glasgow Ivory Blacks 15, Southampton Brook 16, Sheffield Corporation 17, London Camden Underworld 18. Support: Integrity, Colliseum.

CRIME IN STEREO

Leeds Josephs Well May 16, Nottingham Rock City 17, Glasgow Ivory Blacks 18, Newcastle Trillians 19, Exeter Cavern Club 20, Kingston Peel 21, Sheffield Corporation 22, London Oxford Street Fly 23, Newport Le Pub 24.

CULT OF LUNA

Birmingham Academy II June 29, Brighton Junction 30, London King's Cross Scala July 1. Support: Devil Sold His Soul.

THE DAMNED

Liverpool Academy May 3, Birmingham Academy 4, Bristol Academy August 23, Newcastle Academy 24.

DEATH ANGEL

Nottingham Junction 7 April 16, Glasgow Ivory Blacks 17, Wolverhampton Civic 18.

DEF LEPPARD / WHITESNAKE

Glasgow SECC June 17, Birmingham NEC 18, Manchester MEN Arena 20, Belfast Odyssey Arena 21, Sheffield Arena 23, Newcastle Arena 24, London Wembley Arena 26. Support: Black Stone Cherry, Cardiff CIA July 14, Liverpool Echo Arena 15, Nottingham Arena 17. Support: Thunder.

DEVILDRIVER

Wrexham Central Station April 22 and support to Opeth.

DIO

Birmingham Academy May 27, London Charing Cross Astoria 28.

DOWNLOAD

Donington Park Download Festival June 13-15. Biffy Clyro, Madina Lake, Bullet For My Valentine, Fightstar, Seether and From First To Last join headliners Kiss, The Offspring, Lostprophets plus Judas Priest, Rise Against, Motörhead, HIM, In Flames, The Dillinger Escape Plan, Disturbed, Children Of Bodom, Coheed And Cambria, Alter Bridge, Within Temptation, Simple Plan, Apocalyptica and the Cavalera Conspiracy, Incubus, Chris Cornell, Jonathan Davis, Jimmy Eat World, 36 Crazyfists and Job For A Cowboy, Kid Rock, Bleeding Through, The Subways, Black Dahlia Murder and Throwdown plus more TBA.

DUB TRIO

London Camden Underworld April 22, Bristol Croft 29.

EINSTÜRZENDE NEUBAUTEN

London Kentish Town Forum May 22.

FIGHTSTAR

Derby Uni May 19, Mansfield Intake Club 20, Portsmouth Wedgewood Rooms 22, Liverpool Academy II 23, Glasgow Garage 24, Leeds Slam Dunk Festival 25, Stoke Sugarmill 27, Manchester Academy III 28, London Islington Academy 29, Birmingham Academy II 30.

FILTER

London Islington Academy June 9.

FLOGGING MOLLY

London Charing Cross Astoria May 31, Glasgow ABC June 1, Manchester Academy II 3, Birmingham Academy 4. Support: Pepper.

FOO FIGHTERS

Manchester City Of Manchester Stadium June 2, London Wembley Stadium 6 and 7.

GENGHIS TRON

Brighton Engine Rooms May 9, Sheffield Corporation 10, Leeds Josephs Well 11, Newcastle Trillians 12, Plymouth White Rabbit 13, Bristol Croft 14, London Islington Bar Academy 15. Support: Nachtmystium, Zoroaster.

GIVE IT A NAME 2008

London Earl's Court and Sheffield Arena May 10 and 11. Line-up: Alkaline Trio, 30 Seconds To Mars, Paramore, Billy Talent, Glassjaw, Silverstein, Anti-Flag, You Me At Six, The Color Fred, Four Year Strong, Finch, Set Your Goals, Strike Anywhere, All Time Low, My American Heart, Mayday Parade, Meg And Dia.

GLASSJAW

Dublin Tripod May 12.

GOGOL BORDELLO

Birmingham Academy April 22.

THE HIVES

Nottingham Rock City April 16, Bristol Academy 17, London Brixton Academy 18.

HORSE THE BAND

Plymouth White Rabbit May 11, London Camden Underworld 12, Stoke Sugarmill 13, Glasgow Ivory Blacks 14, Sheffield Corporation 15, Yeovil Orange Box 16 Dublin Eamon Dorans June 1.

IGNITE

Plymouth White Rabbit May 26, Newcastle Trillians 27, Glasgow King Tut's 28, Peterborough Met Lounge 29, London Camden Underworld 30. Support: Death Before Dishonour, Burn The 8 Track.

ILL NIÑO

London Islington Academy April 27, Wrexham Central Station 28, Birmingham Academy II 29, Cheltenham Night Owl 30.

IRON MAIDEN

London Twickenham Rugby Stadium July 5. Support: Avenged Sevenfold, Within Temptation.

JOE SATRIANI

Birmingham Symphony Hall May 12, Newcastle City Hall 13, Glasgow Royal Concert Hall 14, Manchester Apollo 15, Bristol Colston Hall 17, Bournemouth Pavilion 18, Cardiff St David's Hall 19, London Hammersmith Apollo 20, Nottingham Royal Centre 21.

JONAH MATRANGA

Exeter Cavern May 6, Nottingham Bodega 7, Leeds Cockpit 8, Manchester Roadhouse 9, Glasgow Barfly 11, Birmingham Barfly 12, Oxford Jericho Tavern 13, Cardiff Barfly 14, London Camden Barfly 16.

JONATHAN DAVIS

Download Festival June 15, London Islington Union Chapel 16, Oxford

Academy 18, Sheffield Leadmill 19, Liverpool Academy 20, Glasgow Garage 22, Perth Concert Hall 26, Inverness Ironworks 27.

KIDS IN GLASS HOUSES

Middlesbrough Empire May 21, Glasgow Garage 22, Manchester Academy III 23, Liverpool Academy II 24, Oxford Academy 27, Birmingham Barfly 28, Nottingham Rock City Basement 29, Sheffield Leadmill 30, Stoke Sugarmill 31, Norwich Waterfront June 2, Exeter Phoenix 3, Portsmouth Wedgewood Rooms 4, London Charing Cross Astoria II 5.

KILLING JOKE

London Kentish Town Forum October 2 and 3.

PROJECT REVOLUTION

LINKIN PARK
Milton Keynes Bowl June 29. Support: Jay-Z, Pendulum, N*E*R*D, Enter Shikari.

MINDLESS SELF INDULGENCE

London Charing Cross Astoria April 20, Yeovil Westland Leisure Centre 22, Leeds Met Uni 23, Manchester Academy 24, Birmingham Academy 25, Glasgow ABC 26.

MINISTRY

London Kentish Town Forum May 27.

MONSTER MAGNET

London Charing Cross Astoria June 24.

MUDHONEY

London Kentish Town Forum July 31.

NEW FOUND GLORY

Norwich UEA November 20, Manchester Academy 21, Birmingham Academy 22, Glasgow Barrowland 23, Newcastle Academy 25, Southampton Guildhall 26, Bristol Academy 27, London Brixton Academy 28, Nottingham Rock City 29.

NICKELBACK

Belfast Odyssey September 12, Dublin RDS Simmoncourt 13, Manchester Evening News Arena 15, Sheffield Arena 16, Birmingham NEC 18, London Greenwich O2 Arena 19, London Wembley Area 21. Support: Staind.

OPETH

Birmingham Academy April 23, Glasgow Barrowland 24, Manchester Academy 25, London Brixton Academy 26. Support: Arch Enemy, DevilDriver, 3 Inches Of Blood.

ORANGE GOBLIN

Nottingham Old Angel October 10, Liverpool Barfly 11, Glasgow Ivory Blacks 12, Edinburgh Studio 24 13, Southampton Joiners 31, Brighton Freebrett November 1.

OXEGEN FESTIVAL

County Kildare Naas Punchestown Racecourse July 11-13. Line-up: Rage Against The Machine, Stereophonics, The Prodigy, The Raconteurs, Kings Of Leon and more TBA.

PARAMORE

Glasgow Academy May 12, Dublin RDS June 2, Portsmouth Guildhall 4, Nottingham Rock City 5.

PARKWAY DRIVE

Newport TJ's May 1, Nottingham Rock City 2, Manchester Academy III 3, Glasgow Barfly 4, Yeovil Orange Box 5, Sheffield Corporation 6, London Camden Underworld 7 and 8. Support: Bury Your Dead, Suicide Silence and Shaped By Fate.

PENDULUM

Cardiff Uni May 1, Liverpool Uni 2, Glasgow Academy 3, Newcastle Academy 4, Bristol Academy 6, Southampton Guildhall 7, Manchester Academy 9, Leeds Blank Canvas 10, Nottingham Rock City 13, Exeter Uni Great Hall 14, Birmingham Custard Factory 16, London Brixton Academy 17, Middlesbrough Empire 24.

THE PRESIDENTS OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Brighton Concorde II April 16, Bristol Academy 18, Birmingham Academy 19, Manchester Academy 20, Newcastle Academy 22, Glasgow Academy 23, Belfast Spring & Airbrake 24. Support: Electric Eel Shock.

QUEENSRÛCHE

Glasgow Academy June 13, Newcastle City Hall 14, Leeds Uni 15, Manchester

Academy 17, Wolverhampton Civic Hall 18, Norwich UEA 20, Cambridge Corn Exchange 21, London Greenwich IndigO2 22, Bristol Colston Hall 24, Southampton Guildhall 25.

RAGE AGAINST THE MACHINE

Kinross-shire Balado 7 In The Park July 12, County Kildare Naas Punchestown Racecourse 13.

RAVENS CREED

Nottingham Angel May 23, Edinburgh Studio 24 24, Newcastle Trillians 25, Leeds Fenton 26, Cardiff Clwb Ifor Bach 27, Wolverhampton Little Civic 28, Brighton Engine Rooms 29, London Camden Bar Monsta 30.

READING AND LEEDS FESTIVAL

Reading Richfield Avenue and Leeds Bramham Park August 22, 23, 24. Line-up: Rage Against The Machine, Metallica, Queens Of The Stone Age, Tenacious D, The Raconteurs, Slipknot, Feeder, Biffy Clyro, Avenged Sevenfold and more.

RED JUMPSUIT APPARATUS

Southampton Uni May 16, Birmingham Barfly 17, Manchester Roadhouse 18, Glasgow King Tut's 20, Belfast Auntie Annies 21, Dublin Hub 22, Yeovil Orange Box 24, Leeds Slam Dunk Festival 25, London Islington Academy 26.

REVEREND HORTON HEAT

London Charing Cross Astoria 2 July 26. Support: Nashville Pussy.

SENJ TANIGAWA

Oxford Academy August 19, Birmingham Academy 20, Reading Festival 22, Leeds Festival 23, Glasgow ABC September 1, Liverpool Academy 2, London Kentish Town Forum 3.

SEX PISTOLS

London Brixton Academy November 8 and 9.

SICK OF IT ALL

Plymouth White Rabbit April 16, London Camden Underworld 17, Kingston Peel 18, Leeds Josephs Well 19, Glasgow King Tut's 20, Norwich Queen Charlotte 21. Support: Wisdom In Chains.

SIMPLE PLAN

Manchester Academy II April 16, London Charing Cross Astoria 18, Wolverhampton Wulfrun Hall 19, Nottingham Rock City 20, Bristol Academy 21.

SKINDRED

Birmingham Academy May 15, Leeds Rio's 16, Yeovil Orange Box 17, Exeter Phoenix 18, Southampton Brook 19, Bristol Academy 20, Norwich Waterfront 21, Peterborough Park 22, Sheffield Corporation 23, Camberley Agincourt 24, Manchester Academy 25, Aberdeen Barfly 26, Glasgow Cathouse 27, Newcastle Academy 28, Liverpool Academy 29, Brighton Concorde II 30, London Euston ULU 31.

SLAM DUNK FESTIVAL

Leeds Uni May 25. Line-up: Cute Is What We Aim For, Boys Like Girls, Story Of The Year, Fightstar, You Me At

Six, The Red Jumpsuit Apparatus, Big D & The Kids Table, Sonic Boom Six, Random Hand, Tonight Is Goodbye, Furthest Drive Home, All Or Nothing, All Forgotten and more TBC.

SLAVES TO GRAVITY

Glasgow King Tut's April 16, Edinburgh Cabaret Voltaire 17, Aberdeen Kef 18, Dundee Westport Bar 19, Hull Lamp 21, Leeds Cockpit 22, Liverpool Barfly 23, Derby Victoria Inn 24, Stoke Sugarmill 26, Swindon 12 Bar 27, London Orange Yard Borderline 28, Northampton Soundhaus 29.

SONATA ARCTICA

London Islington Academy April 21, Leeds Rio's 22, Glasgow Garage 23, Sheffield Corporation 25, Dublin Button Factory 26, Birmingham JB's 27.

STORY OF THE YEAR

London Charing Cross Astoria II May 20, Birmingham Academy II 21, Manchester Academy II 22, Glasgow QMU 23, Leeds Slamdunk Festival 25.

TERRORVISION

Nottingham Rock City May 22, Bristol Academy 23, London Shepherd's Bush Empire 24, Norwich UEA 25.

THIS IS HELL

Brighton Engine Rooms April 23, Norwich Queen Charlotte 24, Leeds Rio's 25, London Camden Barfly 26.

TIME AGAIN

Leicester Charlotte May 7, Sheffield Casbah 8, Kingston Fighting Cocks 9, Bristol Croft 10, Exeter Cavern Club 11, London Camden Underworld June 8.

TODAY IS THE DAY

Sheffield Corporation May 19, Glasgow Ivory Blacks 20, Birmingham Bar Academy 21, Plymouth White Rabbit 22, Cardiff Clwb Ifor Bach 23, London Camden Underworld 24.

TROUBLE

London Camden Dingwalls April 20.

SAXON

London Shepherd's Bush Empire April 23.

V FESTIVAL

MUSE

Chelmsford Hylands Park and Stafford Weston Park August 16 and 17.

WEDNESDAY 13

Wolverhampton Wulfrun Hall May 12, Norwich Waterfront 13, Leicester Charlotte 14, Cardiff Uni 15, Exeter Phoenix 16, Leeds Cockpit 17, Sheffield Corporation 18, Aberdeen Moshulu 19, Glasgow Garage 20, Oxford Academy 21, London Charing Cross Astoria II June 1.

WITCH

London Camden Underworld May 5.

WITCHCRAFT

Leeds Rio's April 16.

YEAR LONG DISASTER

Liverpool Barfly April 16, Glasgow Cathouse 17, Leeds Josephs Well 18, Nottingham Rock City 19, Manchester Roadhouse 20, London Camden Barfly 21.

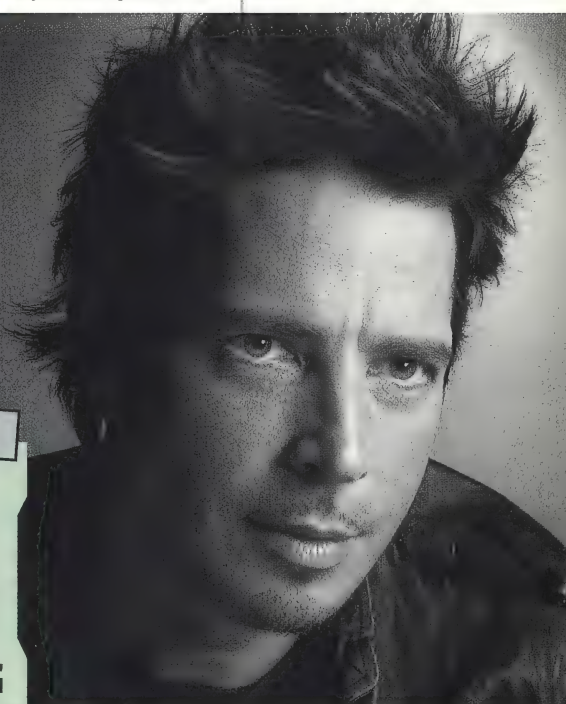
Star Picks!

CHRIS CORNELL



"Pretty much everyone in Dillinger is a massive Soundgarden fan, so to see we're sharing a bill with Chris Cornell at Download is awesome. One of our old techs actually works for him now, so it means we get to give him shit as well as watch the show."

**BEN WEINMAN,
THE DILLINGER ESCAPE PLAN**



TKO Presents

Die So Fluid



Apr 27th - **Carling Academy, London***
 Apr 28th - **Central Station, Wrexham***
 Apr 29th - **Academy II, Birmingham***
 Apr 30th - **The Night Owl, Cheltenham***

on tour as special guests of **Alvin*

May 9th - **Sedition @ Mass, London**
 with Panic Cell



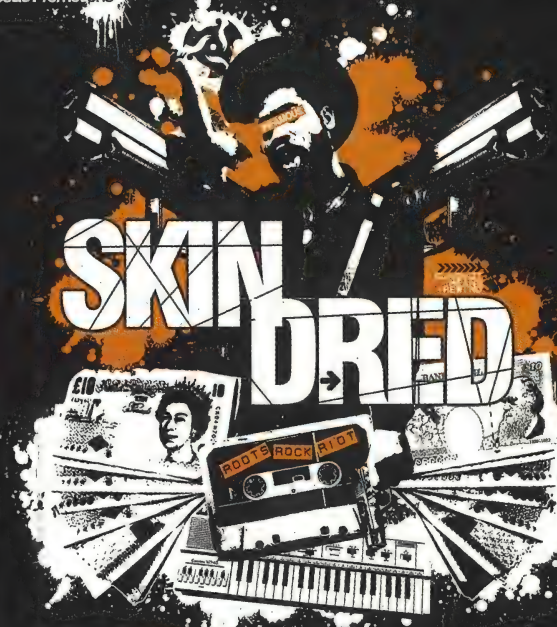
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 22/05 PETERBOROUGH The Park
 23/05 SHEFFIELD Corporation
 24/05 CAMBERLEY Agincourt
 25/05 MANCHESTER Academy
 26/05 ABERDEEN Barfly
 27/05 GLASGOW Cathouse
 28/05 NEWCASTLE Academy
 29/05 LIVERPOOL Academy
 30/05 BRIGHTON Concorde 2
 31/05 LONDON ULU

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 SUN 27 APR / £16adv / DOORS 7.30
SONATA ARCTICA + AFTER FOREVER
 TUES 13 MAY / £17adv / DOORS 7.30
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 ROBERT HART, JAZ LOCHRIE, HARRY JAMES)
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TESLA

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 THE CLAIRVOYANTS + ABIGAIL'S MERCY + BROKEN FAITH
 HOSTILE + RATTLESNAKE REMEDY + ORIUS

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HAZARETH

SAT 5 JUL / £16adv / DOORS 7.00

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 TICKETS AVAILABLE.....

 MINISTRY
 27TH MAY

 DOWNLOAD FESTIVAL
 13TH-15TH JUNE

 JOURNEY
 17TH JUNE

 QUEENSRYCHE
 22ND JUNE

 MORBID ANGEL
 26TH JUNE

 BON JOVI
 27TH & 28TH JUNE

 BRIAN WILSON
 1ST JULY

 IRON MAIDEN
 5TH JULY

 COUNTING CROWS
 6TH JULY

 CONVERGE
 13TH & 18TH JULY

 ALICE COOPER
 24TH JULY

 DEEP PURPLE
 30TH JULY

 MEATLOAF
 2ND AUGUST

 NICKELBACK
 19TH SEPTEMBER

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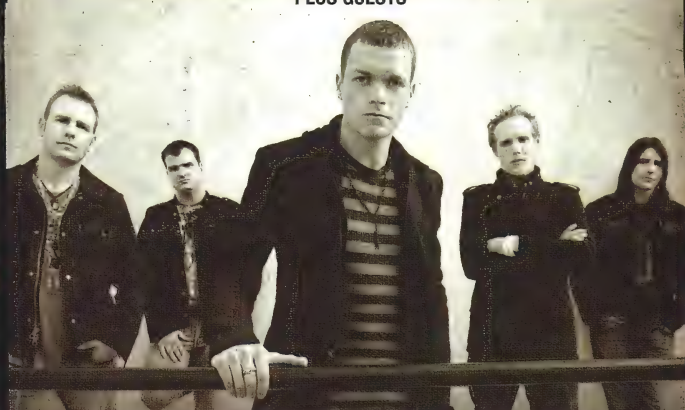
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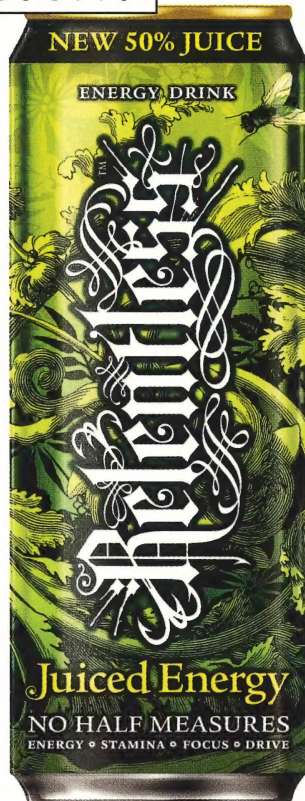
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WIN!



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**A FEMALE DOG IS MORE COMMONLY
KNOWN AS A... WHAT?**

Email your answer with your name, age, address and contact number to kerrang@emap.com with 'Who Let The Dog Out?' as the subject header. You can also post your entry to the address below.

All competitions can be entered by sending your answer on a postcard to Kerrang!, PO Box 2930, London W1A 6DZ. Closing date for these competitions is April 23, 2008. Only one entry per person please. Winners will be selected at random and notified by post.

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Next week

ON SALE WEDNESDAY APRIL 23



Photo: Retna

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TOM HIGGENSON

PLAIN WHITE T'S

WHEN WAS THE LAST TIME YOU CRIED?

"I saw the movie PS I Love You, and that was a weeper. I was crying through the whole movie!"

WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE YOUR LAST MEAL ON EARTH TO BE?

"A Potbelly sandwich. They're a little sandwich place in Chicago."

WHAT WAS THE LAST THING THAT MADE YOU REALLY LAUGH?

"I watched the South Park movie the other day for the first time. I loved all the swearing, Uncle Fucker, all that stuff. It's completely over the top and hilarious."

WHERE WAS YOUR LAST HOLIDAY?

"For us, holiday is when we get to go home and actually spend time with our families and friends."

WHAT WOULD YOU SPEND YOUR LAST £20 ON?

"That would probably mean that I'm going back to America and I have £20 in my wallet that I don't want to convert back to American money, so I'd probably buy some McDonalds at the airport. Dave [Tirio, guitar] would gamble it away, but I would put it in my belly before my nice eight-hour plane ride!"

WHO WAS THE LAST PERSON YOU SAID 'I LOVE YOU' TO?

"Angie, my girl from back home."

WHEN WAS THE LAST TIME YOU GOT IN A FIGHT?

"That would be Angie too! Last night, just a stupid phone argument that happens sometimes. I've never really been in a fist fight. One of my friends got in a bar room brawl at New Year's Eve five years ago, and I was there then. He got his cheek bit into and had to go to hospital. It was crazy."

WHEN WAS THE LAST TIME YOU WERE DRUNK?

"Last night, we were all at a hotel bar having a few drinks. It was a fun night."

WHEN WAS THE LAST TIME YOU WERE HIGH?

"I've never smoked weed or anything like that. When I was in hospital for a car accident they had me on morphine. So I guess I was pretty high but I don't know because I was in too much pain."

WHEN WAS THE LAST TIME YOU TOOK A TEST?

"Every day is a test! I don't remember, probably about 1998 at school. I do Sudoku, does that count?"

WHAT'S THE LAST THING YOU WANT TO DO BEFORE YOU DIE?

"Make love to a beautiful woman."

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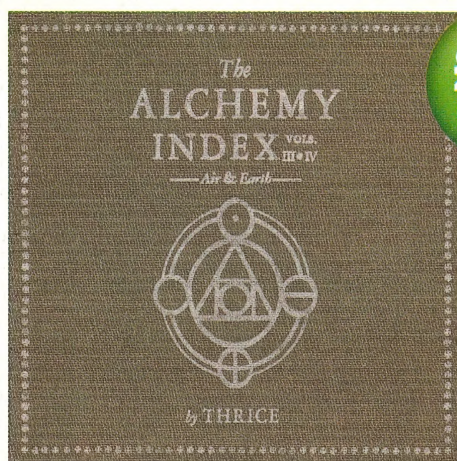


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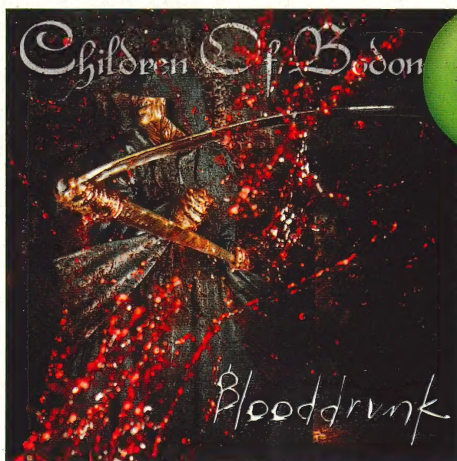


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